COLLECTOR'S EDITION

A HORROR CLASSIC

TERROR TALES

K 47918
OCT. 1976
$1.25

VAMPIRE
You May Be His Next Victim

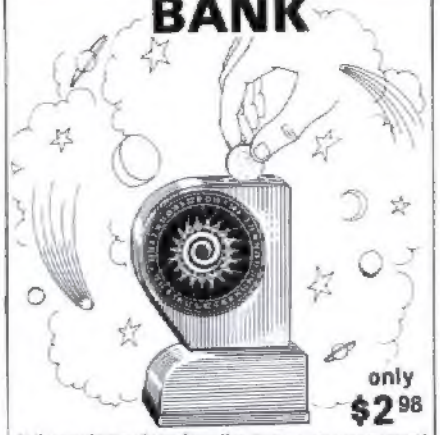
SATAN'S MAN
The Devil Comes In Many Faces

NIGHTMARE
A Journey Into Death And Horror

GARDEN OF CORPSES
It Devours All

THE DEMON STRIKES
Horror Beyond Belief

MYSTERIOUS WHEEL of FORTUNE BANK



only $2.98

Is it a mysterious force from the stars - your own personal vibrations - or just random chance? We don't attempt an answer! Just drop in a coin to spin the wheel and watch the pointer stop at the number which tells your fortune for the day. One thing we surely guarantee: saving coins every day means that you are coming into good hard cash. Your "Wheel of Fortune Bank" and the "Fortune Telling Chart" are both yours for only $2.98 plus 50¢ for postage and handling.

Honor House Dept. 472WF55 Lynbrook, NY 11563

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- Purchaser must be over 21
- Not sold in NY or Calif.

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Just turn the dial each day and, as you set the date, read your horoscope for the day. Avoid pitfalls and take advantage of strong indications as described in this personal horoscope message. "Zodiacalendar" is perfect for home, office, or as a cherished gift. It is made of bamboo colored, high impact styrene, and is embossed in gold with your sign of the Zodiac. Order now and get a FREE 1977 refill in addition to the full year of 1976. Put yourself in touch with your stars now. Send only $4.95 plus 60¢ for postage and handling and we will rush your order without delay. IMPORTANT: SEND THE SIGN OF THE ZODIAC OR THE DATE OF BIRTH OF THE PERSON WHO IS TO USE THE "ZODIACALENDAR".

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N.Y. State residents add appropriate Sales Tax

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only $1.69

"STINGER AUTOMATIC" 50-22 Cal. Pellets Free.

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Looks and feels like a real Colt "45" automatic fully 6 inches long — 4 inches high. Fires 22 cal. pellets as fast as you can pull the trigger. Great for fast action, combat type target practice. FREE supply of targets and 50 reusable 22 cal. pellets. Money back if not satisfied. Just send $1.69 plus 50c for postage and handling. NY state residents state age

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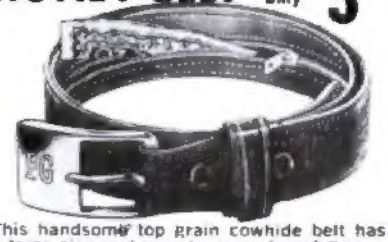
SAFEGUARD YOUR VALUABLES

SECRET POCKET MONOGRAMMED MONEY BELT Only $3.98



This handsome top grain cowhide belt has a large zippered secret compartment. Comes complete with a fine rugged buckle monogrammed with your initials. Available in black or brown. Sizes 28 to 46. Only $3.98 plus 60c shipping charges. Please specify size, color and initials

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IMPORTED LOCK BLADE STILETTO

- 9" Overall Length 5" When Closed
- Opens instantly
- Sharp and Tough
- Stainless Steel Blade

ONLY $2.75

Flips open instantly and locks automatically to prevent accidental closing. Razor sharp tough stainless steel blade for reliable use and hard, long service. Money back in 5 days if not satisfied. Send $2.75 plus 35c to cover postage and handling

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Dept. 4725T55

35 Wilbur Street, Lynbrook, N. Y. 11563

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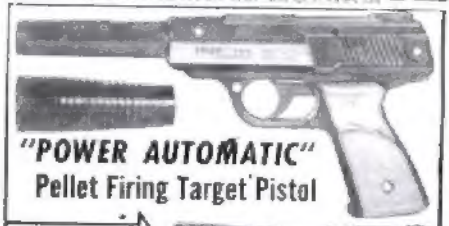

"POWER AUTOMATIC" Pellet Firing Target Pistol

and SILENCER

FREE 50 Reusable 22 Cal. Pellets

only $1.98

Rapid firing 22 cal. fully 9 inches long with the look and feel of an "undercover" automatic. Snap the "silencer" on or remove it for fast combat type target practice. FREE 50 reusable 22 cal. pellets and supply of targets. Money back guarantee if not satisfied. Just send $1.98 plus 50c for postage and handling. NY State residents state age. Not sold in NY City

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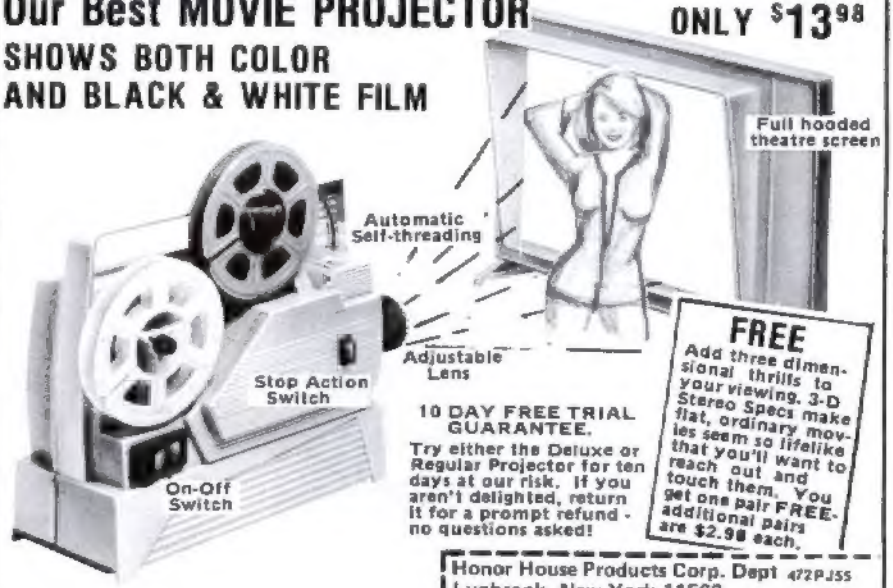
Our Best MOVIE PROJECTOR

ONLY $13.98

SHOWS BOTH COLOR AND BLACK & WHITE FILM



10 DAY FREE TRIAL GUARANTEE.

Try either the Deluxe or Regular Projector for ten days at our risk. If you aren't delighted, return it for a prompt refund - no questions asked!

FREE Add three dimensional thrills to your viewing. 3-D Stereo Specs make flat, ordinary movies seem so lifelike that you'll want to reach out and touch them. You get one pair FREE - additional pairs are $2.98 each.

- Luminous, hooded screen at no extra charge.
- Precision ground, adjustable lenses.
- Miracle film self-threader.
- Stop action switch for frame by frame enjoyment.
- Rugged construction for long life.

This deluxe 8MM home movie projector has many features that you might expect to find only in projectors costing many times more. It's fully battery operated for complete portability and comes with its own hooded screen to let you see movies even in broad daylight. The built in film threader takes the start of the film and automatically attaches it to the take up reel. Even has a stop action switch to let pinpoint the scenes you especially want to enjoy. This rugged long-lasting projector is only $13.98 (batteries not included).

Honor House Products Corp. Dept 472PJ55
Lynbrook, New York 11563

Gentlemen: I have read your guarantee and would like you to send me:

☐ The deluxe projector. I enclose $13.98 plus $1 for postage and handling.

☐ The regular projector. I enclose $9.98 plus $1 postage and handling.

☐ Send the ☐ Deluxe, or ☐ Regular (check your choice) COD. I enclose $1 deposit and will pay postman the balance plus COD charges.

☐ Send additional STEREO SPECS at $2.98 (Fill in amount desired).

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TERROR TALES

October 1976 Volume 7 Number 4

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HELEN APPLETON WAS CONSTANTLY PEEVED BECAUSE HER HUSBAND WAS MORE A MOUSE THAN A MAN... BUT WHEN HE CHANGED SHE LIKED IT MUCH LESS...

THE MONSTER

AND WHEN CYRIL GOT HOME TO HIS WIFE...
CYRIL! HOW CAN YOU WEAR A HAT LIKE THAT? DID THE SALESMAN TALK YOU INTO IT...
WHY, ER... HE WAS RATHER PERSUASIVE, DEAR!
I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A WEAK-WILLED, SPINELESS CREATURE AS YOU! YOU HAVEN'T THE GUMPTION TO SPEAK YOUR MIND! WHILE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT, ASK MR. FITCH FOR A RAISE TOMORROW!
I CAN'T, DEAR! HE... HE'S SO TOUCHY THAT...
WELL, SO AM I... AND I WON'T GIVE YOU A MOMENTS PEACE UNTIL YOU ASK!
VERY WELL, DEAR! AND NOW IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'D LIKE TO SPEND SOME TIME... YOU KNOW... IN THE CELLAR!
CYRIL DABBLED IN CHEMISTRY... AND NOT ONLY IDLY, FOR HE WAS WORKING ON ONE SPECIAL EXPERIMENT...
IF I COULD ONLY FIND IT!... A CHEMICAL COMBINATION THAT WOULD STIMULATE THE ADRENAL GLANDS... INCREASE MAN'S COURAGE!
CYRIL WORKED PARTICULARLY LATE THAT NIGHT, AND...
THIS MAY BE IT! PRECIPITATION... JUST WHAT I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR... MUST TRY IT ON THE RABBIT... AT ONCE!
AT THAT MOMENT...
CYRIL! IT'S LATE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I... I THINK I FOUND IT... A LIQUID THAT WILL GIVE ME COURAGE!
HMMMPH! YOU WON'T FIND COURAGE IN A BOTTLE... BUT MAYBE YOU WILL WORK A MIRACLE, AND BECOME A MAN AFTER ALL! I'M GOING UP TO READ A WHILE!

I'LL POUR A LITTLE... JUST A DROP ON THIS LETTUCE LEAF...

CYRIL FED THE LETTUCE LEAF TO THE RABBIT, AND...
THAT EXPRESSION ON ITS FACE... IT... IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A RABBIT ANYMORE... IT'S MORE LIKE SOME... SOME WILD JUNGLE BEAST!

THE RABBIT CONTINUED TO CHANGE...
RRRRRR!

MORE AND MORE...
TRUMK!
CRAK!
SSSRAK!
GRRRROOR!

AND THEN...
GRRRRRRRR!
AAUUUGEEEE!

WHAT A FOOL I WAS TO TAMPER WITH NATURE! IT... IT'S GOING TO DEVOUR ME, ALIVE!

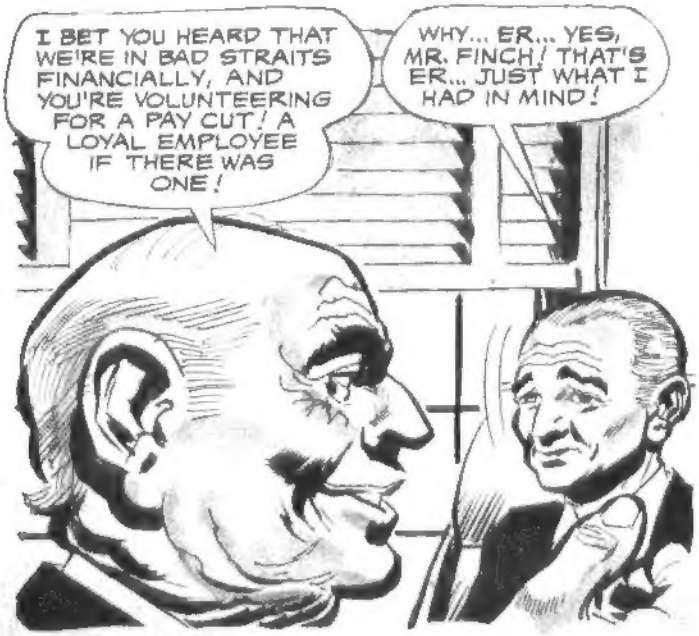
SUDDENLY...
THANK GOODNESS! IT...IT'S CHANGING BACK! LUCKY I USED ONLY A DROP OF THE STUFF!

CYRIL, WHAT WAS THAT COMMOTION!
I...I FOUND THE CHEMICAL I WAS LOOKING FOR...IT...IT CHANGED THE RABBIT INTO A MONSTROSITY!

HMMMFFF! YOU PROBABLY FELL ASLEEP AND DREAMED IT! COME NOW IT'S TIME FOR BED! SINCE YOU'RE GOING TO SEE MR. FINCH IN THE MORNING!
I WASN'T DREAMING! OH...WHAT'S THE USE! YES, DEAR!

CYRIL SLEPT VERY LITTLE THAT NIGHT...
I MUST DESTROY THAT BOTTLE TOMORROW... IT...IT'S NOT SAFE TO LET IT LIE AROUND!

NEXT DAY IN MR. FINCH'S, OFFICE...
MR. FINCH, I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO YOU ABOUT A...ER...CERTAIN MATTER...
WHY, APPLETON, I KNOW JUST WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND!


I BET YOU HEARD THAT WE'RE IN BAD STRAITS FINANCIALLY, AND YOU'RE VOLUNTEERING FOR A PAY CUT! A LOYAL EMPLOYEE IF THERE WAS ONE!
WHY... ER... YES, MR. FINCH! THAT'S ER... JUST WHAT I HAD IN MIND!

AND, WHEN CYRIL GOT HOME THAT NIGHT...
AND YOU LET HIM TALK YOU INTO A CUT INSTEAD OF A RAISE! OF ALL THE MEN IN THE WORLD, I HAD TO PICK A WEAK-MINDED JELLY FISH LIKE YOU! WHY DON'T YOU DRINK THAT STUFF THAT'LL MAKE A MAN OUT OF YOU!

NO! NO! YOU MUST BE JOKING! I FORGOT... BUT I HAVE TO GET RID OF IT... RIGHT NOW!
PLENTY OF TIME FOR THAT AFTER SUPPER, DEAR! JUST SIT DOWN AND RELAX!

MAYBE THERE IS SOMETHING IN IT, AFTER ALL! JUST LIKE HIM TO BREW A CONCOCTION THAT WOULD GIVE HIM COURAGE, AND THEN BE AFRAID TO DRINK IT! WELL, WE'LL SEE!

HELEN POURED HALF THE BOTTLE INTO CYRIL'S EGGNOG, AND...
THIS EGGNOG-- I DETECT A STRANGE FLAVOR!
JUST YOUR IMAGINATION, DEAR! DRINK IT DOWN! IT'S GOOD FOR YOU!

CYRIL DRANK IT TO THE LAST DROP, AND...
CYRIL! YOUR FACE!

CYRIL... DON'T COME NEAR ME!
RIIP!
RIIIIIIP!
RIIP!

NO! NO! STAY THERE!

AAIIIIIEEEEE!

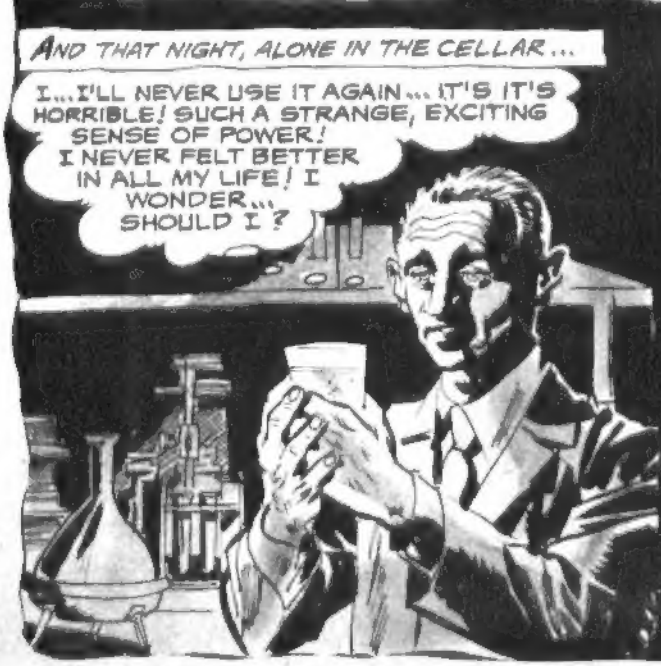
HELP! HELP!

I ALWAYS WANTED TO KILL YOU... AND NOW... YOU... YOU GAVE ME THE COURAGE TO DO IT!
AAAGGGHHH

THOSE WOODS... MUST HIDE... TILL IT WEARS OFF!
EEEH! LOOK!
STOP... OR I'LL SHOOT!

CYRIL FOUND A SHELTERED CAVE, AND WHILE ARMED POLICE SOUGHT HIM...
DIDN'T SEE ME! MUST GO HOME... SOON AS I CHANGE BACK!

LATER THAT EVENING...
YOU'D BETTER COME DOWN AND IDENTIFY HER BODY! MR. APPLETON! YOU HAVE MY SYMPATHY!
POOR HELEN! SHE.. SHE WAS SUCH AN UNDER-STANDING WIFE!


AND THAT NIGHT, ALONE IN THE CELLAR...
I... I'LL NEVER USE IT AGAIN... IT'S IT'S HORRIBLE! SUCH A STRANGE, EXCITING SENSE OF POWER! I NEVER FELT BETTER IN ALL MY LIFE! I WONDER... SHOULD I?

HE DID! AND DAYS LATER CYRIL WAS KILLED BY THE POLICE WHEN HE ATTACKED HIS NEIGHBOR, MRS. CORA ADAMS!
MARCH ONNE
The End

I'M DYING NOW... I'M OLD AND I'M TIRED... I'LL BE GLAD WHEN IT'S OVER AND I'M DEAD! I DON'T WANT TO LIVE ANYMORE... I'M SICK OF CARRYING...
THE SKELETON
YOU RUINED EVERYTHING! MY BROTHER AND I WERE HAPPY UNTIL YOU CAME TO TOWN... BUT NOW YOU'RE GOING TO PAY FOR IT!" I'M CHOPPING YOU INTO LITTLE PIECES, ELLEN!
I'VE LIVED IN THIS CABIN FOR THIRTY YEARS... THIRTY YEARS OF SECRECY... THIRTY YEARS OF FEAR... AND INSULTS AND JIBES...
HEY, WATCH OUT FELLAS! THERE'S THAT CRAZY HERMIT!
YEAH, HE'S BATTY ALL RIGHT, MY OLD MAN SAYS HE OUGHTTA BE ARRESTED!
YES, THAT'S ME, "THE CRAZY HERMIT"! BUT MY TIME IS QUICKLY RUNNING OUT AND BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE, I WANT TO TELL MY STORY...
YOU THERE, BOY! GO INTO TOWN AND FETCH THE DOCTOR!
WHO M-ME?
YE BETTER DO WHAT HE WANTS...OR HE MIGHT HEX YA!

THE BOY RAN DOWN THE ROAD TOWARD TOWN AND NOW I'M WAITING... WAITING...
HE-HE'S GOT TO COME... GOT TO! I CAN'T DIE WITH THIS ON MY CONSCIENCE!
JUST AS I'M READY TO GIVE UP IN DESPAIR, I HEAR A KNOCK ON MY CAB'N DOOR...
YES S'R! I UNDERSTAND YOU SENT FOR ME! NOTHING SERIOUS, I HOPE!
IT AIN'T DOCTORIN' I WANT, MISTER... JUST STEP INSIDE AND LISTEN TO ME!
HE LOOKS AT ME STRANGELY BUT COMES INSIDE THE CAB'N...
FOR GOD'S SAKE, MAN LET SOME LIGHT IN! I CAN'T SEE A THING!
NO! I DON'T LIKE LIGHT! LOOK DOC, I AIN'T GOT MUCH TIME--SO PLEASE LEMME SPILL MY STORY!
IT BEGAN THIRTY-ONE YEARS AGO IN A SMALL VILLAGE 200 MILES FROM HERE.. I LIVED WITH MY BROTHER AND TOGETHER WE RAN A BUTCHER SHOP..
'MORNIN', BOYS! ANY NICE VEAL TODAY?
SURE THING, MRS GEORGE
WE GOT CHOPS AND CUTLETS BOTH!
ME AND AMOS GOT ALONG FINE! WE WORKED TOGETHER AND LIVED TOGETHER... THERE WASN'T A DAY IN OUR LIVES THAT WE WEREN'T TOGETHER...
HOW ABOUT GOIN' OVER TO THE NEWTON FAIR SUNDAY, AMOS? MEBBE HAVE SOME FUN!
YOU THINK TOO MUCH ABOUT HAVIN' A GOOD TIME, HENRY! YOU OUGHTTA WORRY MORE ABOUT BUSINESS!
AMOS WAS MORE SERIOUS MINDED THAN ME .. AND HE HAD A TERRIBLE TEMPER.
HENRY, YOU STUPID FOOL, THIS MEAT'S SPOILED, YOU FORGOT TO PUT IT IN THE ICE-CHEST!
I--I MEANT TO
YOU MEANT TO.. THIRTY DOLLARS WASTED BECAUSE YOU'RE AN IDIOT!
N-NOW, AMOS, TRY TO CONTROL YOURSELF!

BUT EXCEPT FOR THE TIMES WHEN AMOS MADE A FUSS WE GOT ALONG PRETTY GOOD... UNTIL ONE SATURDAY MORNING RIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS...
YES MA'AM, WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
AND BEFORE AMOS OR ME COULD DO ANYTHING SHE FELL OVER IN A DEAD FAINT! WE CALLED DOC BROWN RIGHT AWAY...
WHAT IS IT, DOC? WHAT'S WRONG?
SHE WAS STAGGERING LIKE SHE WAS DRUNK!
NO, AMOS, NOT DRUNK... JUST HALF-DEAD FROM LACK OF FOOD! THIS POOR CHILD HASN'T HAD ANYTHING TO EAT FOR DAYS!
I THINK I FELL IN LOVE WITH HER RIGHT THEN! SHE LOOKED SO TINY AND HELPLESS... AMOS WAS FURIOUS AND AFTER THE DOC LEFT...
WHAT ARE YOU GRININ' ABOUT, YOU FOOL? JUST WHAT ARE WE GONNO DO WITH HER ... SHE CAN'T STAY HERE!
SHE'LL HAVE TO STAY HERE! WE CAN'T PUT HER OUT IN THE COLD!
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE I DIDN'T GIVE IN TO AMOS! ELLEN STAYED WITH US AND SHE GREW STRONGER...
HERE YOU BE, ELLEN, YER DINNER! CHICKEN AND ALL THE TRIMMINGS!
HENRY YOU'RE SO GOOD TO ME THAT I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY!
DON'T SAY NOTHING, ELLEN.. JEST GET BETTER!
STOP YAKING, HENRY! WE GOT WORK TO DO, HURRY UP!
NO, AMOS DIDN'T LIKE ELLEN STAYING WITH US... AND HE NEVER STOPPED YELLING ABOUT IT...
AIN'T YOU GOT NO HEART AT ALL AMOS? THE GIRL'S SICK, SHE NEEDS HELP!
ELLEN, DRINK YER MILK.. ELLEN, EAT YOUR DINNER... WHAT THE DEVIL'S THE MATTER WITH YOU, HENRY? YER ACTIN' LIKE A LOVE SICK PUPPY!
WELL, SHE'S HAD ALL THE HELP SHE'S GONNA GET FROM US! SHE AIN'T SICK NO MORE! I'M TELLIN' HER TO GET OUT NEXT WEEK!
NO, AMOS! I WON'T LET YOU!

YOU CAN'T STOP ME, HENRY... AND I'M WARNING YA, DON'T TRY! I OWN HALF OF EVERYTHING... AND IF I DON'T WANT HER, SHE GOES!
FOR A MINUTE I FELT TRAPPED AND DESPERATE HOW COULD I LET HER GO? AND THEN I FOUND THE ANSWER I KNEW HOW I COULD KEEP HER...
YOU'RE WRONG, AMOS! THERE AIN'T NOTHIN' YOU CAN DO... IF SHE'S MY WIFE!
WIFE?

IT WAS A CRAZY WILD IDEA... WHAT MADE ME THINK SHE'D MARRY ME? AMOS ALMOST LAUGHED HIMSELF SICK AT THE THOUGHT...
HA HA HA HA HA HA... I ALWAYS KNEW YOU WAS A FOOL, HENRY! HA HA HA HA HA! THAT GIRL AIN'T GONNA MARRY YOU! HA HA HA HA HA!
MEBBE NOT... BUT I'M TRYIN'!
AMOS WAS WITH ME WHEN I ASKED ELLEN TO BE MY WIFE...
AND I KNOW I AIN'T GOT MUCH TO OFFER, ELLEN, BUT BUT I LOVE YOU AND I'D DO ANYTHING FOR YOU!
YOU'RE THE GENTLEST, KINDEST MAN I'VE EVER KNOWN! I'D BE PROUD TO BE YOUR WIFE!
YOU CAN'T GO THROUGH WITH THIS! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! UTTERLY IMPOSSIBLE! I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT WHAT YOU DO, HENRY... AND I SAY NO!
THERE AIN'T NO WAY YOU CAN STOP US, AMOS.

I KNEW WHY AMOS WAS UPSET AND I TRIED TO CALM HIM DOWN...
I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, AMOS, WE BEEN TOGETHER ALL OUR LIVES... JEST THE TWO OF US! BUT THINGS WON'T BE MUCH DIFFERENT NOW... EXCEPT ELLEN WILL BE WITH US!
GO ON, MAN! WHAT HAPPENED? DID AMOS FINALLY ACCEPT ELLEN AS YOUR WIFE?
NO, HE DIDN'T HAVE TO...

WE PLANNED TO BE MARRIED IN A MONTH AND WHEN AMOS SAID NOTHING MORE I THOUGHT HE'D GIVEN UP THE FIGHT!
SHE'S A BEAUTY AIN'T SHE, AMOS? I'M A LUCKY MAN...
YEAH, SURE.. SURE...
BUT I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT AMOS NEVER GAVE UP...ON THE NIGHT BEFORE THE WEDDING...
C'MON, HENRY, WAKE UP! WE GOT WORK TO DO!
WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU DOING, AMOS? IT'S THE MIDDLE OF...
WHEN I TRIED TO MOVE I COULDN'T... MY HANDS WERE TIED BEHIND MY BACK...
NOW TAKE IT EASY, BROTHER. I'M GONNA SAVE YOU FROM MAKING A BIG MISTAKE!
WHAT IN GOD'S NAME ARE YOU UP TO AMOS? UNTIE MY HANDS!
HE PULLED ME DOWN THE HALL INTO ELLEN'S ROOM. SUDDENLY I BEGAN TO FEEL A SICKENING TERROR CREEP INTO THE PIT OF MY STOMACH.
AMOS, YOU'VE LOST YER MIND! I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE PLANNING, BUT...
GIT UP, ELLEN, I'VE GOT A PRESENT FOR YOU!
HE FORCED US OUT THE BACK DOOR AND INTO THE REAR ENTRANCE TO THE SHOP!
I'M WARNING YOU, AMOS, IF YOU DO ANYTHING TO HER... I'LL KILL YOU!
I WAS HELPLESS, UNABLE TO STOP HIM AS HE PICKED UP A MEAT CLEAVER AND STARTED TOWARD ELLEN..
AMOS, D-DON'T L-LET ME GO!
YOU RUINED EVERYTHING! HENRY AND I WERE HAPPY UNTIL YOU CAME HERE! I'M GOING TO KILL YOU!
YAEEEE
HAHA

THE CLEAVER ROSE AND FELL AGAIN AND AGAIN...
ELLEN... ELLEN... (SOB) M-MY SWEET LITTLE ELLEN...
I BURIED HER BEHIND THE HOUSE..
I'M GOING TO KILL YOU FOR THIS, AMOS... SOMEDAY WHEN YOU'RE LEAST EXPECTING IT!
YOU'RE JUST BITTER NOW. YOU'LL GET OVER IT!
THOSE WERE THE LAST WORDS I EVER SPOKE TO AMOS... FROM THAT DAY ON I ACTED AS THOUGH HE DIDN'T EXIST
FOR PETE SAKE, HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA KEEP THIS UP?
TALK TO ME!
I'D LIKE TO DO TO HIM WHAT HE'S DOING TO THAT CHICKEN... JUST ONE QUICK BLOW..
AND FINALLY ONE NIGHT I COULDN'T COULD STAND IT ANY LONGER..
THIS IS GONNA BE FER ELLEN AMOS..
H-HENRY WHAT ARE YOU... HENRY... NO!

BUT I DIDN'T ANSWER HIM... I JUST KEPT MY HANDS AROUND HIS THROAT AND SQUEEZED HARDER... AND... HARDER...
FER ELLEN... FER ELLEN...
HENRY... LEMME GO. STOP, I'M CHOKING...
HENRY... HENRY...
AFGGHHH
I LEFT TOWN THAT NIGHT BY WAGON AND DROVE AND DROVE...
FASTER ...FASTER!
I STOPPED WHEN I GOT HERE. I TOOK THIS CABIN AND I'VE BEEN HERE EVER SINCE!
BUT THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHY DIDN'T YOU CALL THE POLICE WHEN AMOS KILLED ELLEN? AND WHY HAVE YOU LIVED LIKE A HERMIT? YOU HAVEN'T BEEN OUT OF THIS CABIN IN THIRTY YEARS!
WHAT TRUTH? WHAT IN GOD'S NAME... OH, NO! (GASP)
YES, NOW YOU CAN SEE WHY I WAS TRAPPED. AMOS AND I WERE SIAMESE TWINS!
IF I'D CALLED IN THE POLICE I'D HAVE SUFFERED, TOO! I WAS TRAPPED! I DIDN'T DARE LEAVE THIS CABIN... IF I HAD, EVERYONE WOULD HAVE KNOWN THE TRUTH!
The End

THE DEMON STRIKES

WORLD WAR II -- THREE GRIM MEN CAUTIOUSLY MADE THEIR WAY TO THE HIGHLY-STRATEGIC HOUSE ON THE HILL...

I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF IT, SARGE...LIKE WE DON'T BELONG THERE AT ALL!

LOOK, KID, YOU GOT THE JITTERS, NOW CAN IT! WE GOT A JOB TO DO!

ALL RIGHT, MEN! LET'S GO! STAY RIGHT ON MY TAIL!

OKAY, KID! THIS IS IT!

HEADS UP! ENEMY GUN TO OUR RIGHT!

DUCK! I GOT A SPECIAL PRESENT FOR THEM!
GET GOING! HURRY-- WE'VE BEEN SPOTTED!

SARGE--GASP-- GASP...GET THIS GUY!
YAAA-A-A-A!

NEXT TIME, KID... FIGHT YER OWN BATTLES!
GO AHEAD! WE HAVE NO TIME TO LOSE!

C'MON! GET THE LEAD OUTA YOUR PANTS!
RUN! THEY'RE OPENIN' UP ON US WITH MORTARS!

MOMENTS LATER, NEAR THE HOUSE...
I DON'T LIKE IT! THEY'RE ALL AROUND THIS HOUSE!
WHEN I GIVE THE WORD KID--MAKE A DASH FOR IT...
NO! I--CAN'T!

SEE...YOU... INSIDE...!
C'MON, KID! C'MON, I SAID!
RATATATATATATAT

SECONDS AFTERWARDS, INSIDE THE HOUSE...
WOW! I--I ALMOST DIDN'T MAKE IT! SARGE-- YOU IN THERE?
YEAH...!
WHAT HAVE WE GOTTEN INTO? I TOLD YOU I DIDN'T LIKE THIS PLACE! IT-- GIVES ME THE CREEPS!
THERE YOU GO AGAIN! THAT CRAZY IMAGINATION O' YOURS!
L-LOOK! WHAT DID I TELL YOU? LOOK AT THOS DECORATIONS... LIKE THEY WERE V-VAMPIRES! THERE AIN'T A SOUND IN THIS HOUSE...
SURE...'CAUSE NO ONE'S BEEN LIVING IN IT FOR A LONG TIME.
WHEN I WAS A KID, SARGE...I...I USED TO GET STRANGE FEELINGS...LIKE I COULD TALK TO SPIRITS AN' THINGS...YOU GOT TO LISTEN TO ME, SARGE! HEY!! WHERE'S LIEUTENANT ANDERSON?? HE'S DISAPPEARED...!
NUTS!
THERE'S GHOSTS IN THIS PLACE! DON'T ASK ME HOW I KNOW! I JUST KNOW IT!
WHO KNOWS WHERE HE IS? MAYBE HE'S UPSTAIRS?
I'LL TAKE A LOOK- SEE MYSELF. COVER ME FROM BEHIND AND WE'LL--

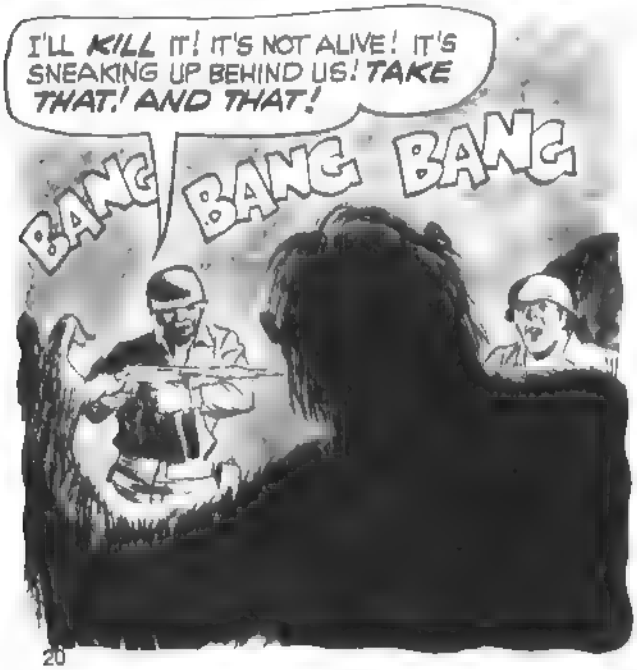
HOLY SMOKE--! KID--IT--IT'S THE LIEUTENANT!
W-WHA...?

I TOLD YOU I KNEW SOMETHING WAS FISHY HERE! GHOSTS...VAMPIRES... I SEE THEM! THEY'RE LAUGHING...
SHADDUP! SHADDUP!

ALL RIGHT. SO IT GIVES ME THE CREEPS TOO! BUT THIS IS WHERE WE GOTTA STAY, SCOTT, NOW LET'S SEE WHAT GIVES INSIDE!

CAUTIOUSLY, THE TWO MEN TREADED THEIR WAY INTO THE EERIE, FOREBODING INTERIOR...
I--I'M SORRY, SARGE. BUT I SWEAR THERE'S GHOSTS NEAR ME!
JUST WORRY ABOUT KRAUTS, PAL.

W-WHAT'S THAT..? I HEARD SOMETHING! SOMEONE'S BEHIND US, SARGE!
H-HUH?


I'LL KILL IT! IT'S NOT ALIVE! IT'S SNEAKING UP BEHIND US! TAKE THAT! AND THAT!
BANG
BANG
BANG

I--I KILLED IT, SARGE--I KILLED IT!
CUT IT OUT, KID! IT'S JUST A STATUE OF SOME KIND!

SO WHILE THE SERGEANT VANISHED INTO THE BLACKNESS, THE YOUNG G.I. SAT, WAITING, WAITING ---
HE THINKS I'M CRAZY. BUT I'M NOT! SOMETHING IS IN THIS HOUSE WITH ME!
CRUNCH CRUNCH CRUNCH
CRUNCH! CRUNCH!
YOU!! I KNEW YOU WERE HERE WITH ME! I KNEW IT WASN'T MY IMAGINATION! GO BACK!
HAVE YOU GONE CRAZY, SCOTT? GET HOLD OF YOURSELF, MAN!
B-BUT...Y-YOU'RE DEAD! YOU CAN'T BE ALIVE! YOU'RE A GHOST!
SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU, SCOTT--BUT I'M VERY MUCH ALIVE--TOO BAD...ABOUT THE SERGEANT, THOUGH!
W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN...TOO BAD? SARGE--SARGE--HELP! SARGE!!
STOP SHOUTING, SCOTT! THE SERGEANT CAN'T HEAR YOU! HE'S DEAD...DEAD THE FIRST MOMENT HE JUMPED IN AFTER ME! A BULLET CAUGHT HIM RIGHT IN THE CHEST! THE ONLY GHOSTS ARE IN YOUR IMAGINATION!
THE END

THE MUMMY'S REVENGE

I CAN TELL NO MORE! NOW, IF THE GENTLEMAN WILL BE SEATED, I SHALL PROCEED!

THE FORTUNE TELLER PEERED INTO THE TRANSPARANT BALL...
YOU HAVE COME HERE ON AN EVIL MISSION! GO BACK! LEAVE... OR THERE WILL BE... DEATH!
WHAT? DON'T BE FOOLISH!

I'M AN ARCHAEOLOGIST! I'VE COME TO EGYPT FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF UNEARTHING THE TOMB OF KALI-DAHN WHO DIED 8,000 YEARS AGO!
WAIT! THAT RING! WHERE DID YOU GET IT?

FROM THE TOMB OF THE SON OF KALI-DAHN ALMOST TEN YEARS AGO! LEGEND HAS IT THAT KALI-DAHN GAVE IT TO HIS SON WHEN HE WOULD SUCCEED TO THE THRONE! WHY?
I CANNOT TELL! NOW YOU MUST GO!

THAT OLD MAN DIDN'T SOUND LIKE HE WAS MAKING IT UP!
KAREN! WHAT HARM COULD AN 8,000 YEAR OLD RING POSSIBLY DO?

LATER...
I STILL CAN'T SHAKE OFF A STRANGE FEELING OF FOREBODING!
YOU'RE TIRED! BETTER GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP!

WHEN DAMON FELL ASLEEP, A VERY STRANGE PHENOMENON TOOK PLACE AS HIS RING TOOK ON A STRANGE GLOW!

...AWAKEN, DR KNIGHT... AWAKEN AND HEED MY WARNING...
WHAT? ...WHO'S THERE? WHO ARE YOU?

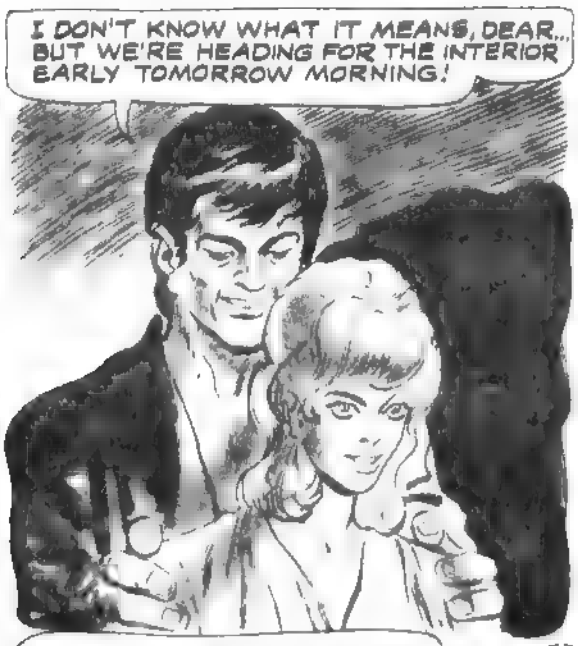
YOU MUST NOT DESECRATE THE TOMB OF KALI-DAHN...FOR THE PENALTY IS DEATH!
IT'S YOU! THE FORTUNE TELLER! THE RING! WHAT IS THE RING TO YOU?

THE RING WAS ONCE MINE! I GAVE IT TO MY SON! I MUST LEAVE NOW! I FEEL THE PRESENCE OF AN INTRUDER!
HIS SON! BUT THAT MAKES HIM THE SPIRIT OF KALI-DAHN... BUT HE'S THE FORTUNE TELLER!

IN JUST AS WEIRD A MANNER AS IT APPEARED, THE MUMMY DISAPPEARED...
DAMON...I THOUGHT I HEARD VOICES!
I JUST HAD A FUNNY DREAM... I MUST'VE BEEN TALKING IN MY SLEEP!

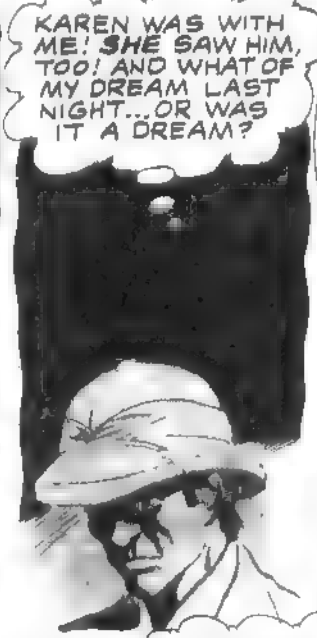
BUT I HEARD TWO VOICES...NOT JUST YOURS ALONE! DAMON! WHAT'S THAT ON THE FLOOR?
ON THE FLOOR?

MUMMY WRAPPINGS! I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT! HOW...?
I'M FRIGHTENED! WHAT DOES IT MEAN?


I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT MEANS, DEAR... BUT WE'RE HEADING FOR THE INTERIOR EARLY TOMORROW MORNING!

RISING EARLY, DAMON AGAIN VISITED THE MARKET...
I'VE GOT TO KNOW WHAT'S BEHIND ALL THIS AND ONLY THAT FORTUNE TELLER CAN TELL ME! THERE'S HIS TENT... HEY... WAIT... IT'S NOT THE SAME! IT'S CHANGED!

BUT I KNOW OF NO FORTUNE TELLER, EFFENDI! I HAVE OCCUPIED THIS SHOP FOR MANY YEARS!
BUT I SAW HIM HERE YESTERDAY!


KAREN WAS WITH ME! SHE SAW HIM, TOO! AND WHAT OF MY DREAM LAST NIGHT... OR WAS IT A DREAM?

LATER, MANY MILES IN THE DESERT...
DAMON! STOP UNLOADING! A BIG WINDSTORM IS COMING UP! GET EVERYONE INSIDE YOUR TENT!
RIGHT!

IN A FEW MOMENTS THEY WERE ALL SAFE IN DAMON'S TENT...
LOOK: ONE OF THE STAYS CAME LOOSE!
I'D BETTER FIX IT BEFORE THE WHOLE TENT BLOWS AWAY!

I CAN HARDLY SEE WHAT I'M DOING IN THIS SWIRLING SAND... WHA...?
DR. KNIGHT! THIS IS MY LAST WARNING! YOU MUST LEAVE THIS PLACE!

YOU MUST NOT DESECRATE THE TOMB OF KALI-DAHN! YOUR FATE LIES IN YOUR DECISION!

THE STORM HAS STOPPED! LET'S FINISH UNLOADING! WE START DIGGING TOMORROW!
FINE! IF MY CALCULATIONS ARE CORRECT, THE TOMB IS UNDER THAT LARGE DUNE!

THE NEXT MORNING...
THAT'S STRANGE! I LEFT MY RING RIGHT HERE LAST NIGHT AND NOW IT'S GONE! OH, WELL, GOOD RIDDANCE TO THE RING! IT'S BEEN BAD LUCK TO ME!

...THAT AFTERNOON...
DAMON! WE'VE FOUND THE ENTRANCE! DR. DEMBROW IS DECIPHERING THE HIEROGLYPHICS NOW!
GREAT!

CAN YOU TRANSLATE IT, DOCTOR?
YES! IT STARTS WITH THE USUAL CURSE OF "DEATH TO THE DESECRATER OF THE TOMB" AND GOES ON TO TELL THE STORY OF KALI-DAHN!

"KALI-DAHN WAS A KING OF VERY UNUSUAL CAPACITIES AND WISDOM! UNDER HIS RULE EGYPT EXPERIENCED GREAT WEALTH AND CULTURE! AT 60, HIS PHYSICIANS GAVE HIM A SHORT TIME TO LIVE, BUT HE OUTLIVED ALL OF THEM..."

"WHEN HE DIED AT THE AGE OF 133, HIS PEOPLE BELIEVED THAT SINCE HE'D LIVED A DOUBLE LIFETIME ANOTHER LIFE HAD TO BE FORFEIT, IN ORDER TO APPEASE THE GODS FROM WHOM HE TOOK THIS TIME..."

YOU MEAN A SACRIFICE? WHOSE LIFE WAS TAKEN?

NO ONE'S, YET... IT SAYS THAT THE LIFE OF THE FIRST ONE TO DESECRATE THE TOMB WILL BE FORFEIT! DO YOU STILL WANT THIS DOOR OPENED, DAMON?

YES! I'VE WAITED FOR THIS MOMENT!

GOOD! YOU MEN.. OVER THERE! BRING THE TOOLS! WE'RE GOING TO REMOVE THE DOOR!

THE SLAB WAS FINALLY REMOVED!

DAMON! THE PRIVILEGE OF FIRST ENTRY IS YOURS!

LOOK! THERE! THAT SHINY THING ON THE FLOOR!

WHY... IT'S MY MISSING RING! BUT HOW? THAT DOOR HASN'T BEEN OPENED IN 8,000 YEARS!

THAT NIGHT AS DAMON SLEPT FITFULLY, THE PHANTOM OF THE RING APPEARED ONCE MORE...

HUH? OH, IT'S YOU!

IF YOU WANT TO SEE KALI-DAHN'S SARCOPHAGUS IN THE INNER CHAMBER OF THE TOMB, FOLLOW ME NOW!

DAMON COULD NOT KEEP HIMSELF FROM FOLLOWING THE APPARITION...

ENTER, DESECRATER OF THE TOMB! ENTER IF YOU DARE!

THAT DOOR, SEALED FOR 8,000 YEARS-- YET IT JUST OPENED BY ITSELF!

INSIDE THE FORBIDDEN CHAMBER, DAMON WAS HORRIFIED TO SEE A CHANGE IN THE APPARITION...

GREAT SCOTT! I DON'T BELIEVE IT--

KEEP AWAY FROM ME... DO YOU HEAR? NO!

THE DOOR! IT'S LOCKED! STAY AWAY! STAY AWAY FROM ME! EEEYAHH!

...MEANWHILE...
DR. DEMBROW! I HEARD A SCREAM... WHAT WAS IT?
PROBABLY JUST ONE OF THE NATIVES! GOOD THING IT DIDN'T WAKE DAMON! HE NEEDS REST! GO BACK TO BED AND FORGET IT!

THE NEXT MORNING...
...I CAN'T FIND DAMON! HE'S NOT IN HIS TENT!
STRANGE! PERHAPS HE'S ENTERED THE TOMB ALONE! LET'S GO SEE!

WELL, DAMON'S NOT IN HERE! THE SEALINGS ON THIS DOOR ARE INTACT AND HAVEN'T BEEN DISTURBED IN 8,000 YEARS!
I'M SO WORRIED! WHERE COULD HE BE?

THE SEALS WERE BROKEN AND THE PARTY ENTERED THE CHAMBER!
WAIT! I KNOW THIS FLASHLIGHT! IT'S DAMONS!
BUT IT COULDN'T BE! THAT DOOR WAS SEALED!

...THE MEN FINALLY PRIED OFF THE SARCOPHAGUS LID AND...
IT'S DAMON!
INCREDIBLE!
THESE ARE THE FACTS! THE CURSE OF KALI-DAHN HAD BEEN FULFILLED! RIDICULOUS, YOU SAY? MAYBE... BUT WHO IS THERE TO DETERMINE?
The End

TREES AND FLOWERS ... ETERNAL SYMBOLS OF *SPRING, SUNSHINE* AND BEAUTY!! YET AN *ANGUISHED* VOICE CRIES OUT IN THE NIGHT TO BEWARE OF *UNSPEAKABLE* HORROR, THE SUDDEN AND VIOLENT *DEATH* THAT GROWS FROM GHASTLY BLACK ROOTS!...

Garden of Corpses

A *RARE* AND *UNSUAL* VASE... THE HARMLESS PURCHASE OF A *STRANGE* OLD MAN... AND YET THE LONELY WALLS OF HIS HOUSE SEEM TO ECHO WITH THE FRIGHTENING SOUND OF DISASTER ... AND *DOOM!*

YOU SEE THIS VASE, MIRANDA? THE *ONLY* ONE OF ITS KIND IN EXISTENCE! ...I BOUGHT IT AT AN ANTIQUE SHOP!

I'LL BRING SOME FLOWERS FOR IT, MR. BAILEY!

I JUST PICKED SOME *FRESH* ONES FROM THE GARDEN!

THUMP THUMP!

NOW WITH A LITTLE WATER THESE SHOULD KEEP FOR QUITE AWHILE!
SUDDENLY THE FLOWERS IN THE VASE... ONCE BRIGHT AND BLOOMING... BECOME LIKE ROTTED CORPSES...
L..LOOK, MR. BAILEY! HOW... COULD... THAT...
UGH-H-H-H!
THERE'S SOMETHING HORRIBLE ABOUT THIS VASE!--IT MUST BE DESTROYED!!
THE DEAD FLOWERS MUST BE DESTROYED LIKE THE VASE!--THEIR EVIL MIGHT CONTAMINATE THIS HOUSE!
WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THE GARDEN ??? WHERE DID THAT GHASTLY FOLIAGE COME FROM ???
THE LOATHESOME VASE FORGOTTEN, THE OLD MAN RETIRES FOR THE NIGHT. AND IN THE MORNING...
WELL, I'M GLAD I THREW OUT THAT HORRID ANTIQUE!

MIRANDA!. DO YOU KNOW WHERE THOSE *STRANGE* PLANTS CAME FROM?

NO, MR. BAILEY, I WAS GOING TO ASK *YOU* ABOUT THEM!

ONE STEP INTO THE GARDEN ... AND WITHIN A FEW SECONDS THE HOUSEKEEPER BECOMES A *FLESHLESS CORPSE!..*

AARRGH-H!

MIRANDA!

THIS GARDEN HAS BECOME LIKE THE *VASE*... IT CAN *DESTROY* WHATEVER COMES INTO IT! I'VE CREATED A ... *MONSTER!*

BUT WHEN THE SHOCK OF *HORROR* HAS FADED, ANOTHER EMOTION TAKES ITS PLACE ... AND IN THE OLD MAN'S MIND A *TERRIBLE* OBSESSION BEGINS TO GROW...

... A *DEADLY MONSTER!!* MY GARDEN!!! NOW I'VE THE *POWER* TO TAKE A HUMAN LIFE! I'VE ALWAYS BEEN *MEEK*... *HELPLESS* ... *ALONE!!!*

.. AND *GROW* AND *GROW* AND *GROW!*

POWER!! THE POWER TO KILL! KILL! KILL!

YES!! YES!! I HEAR YOU... I *UNDER-STAND!*

AND, FINALLY, ONE AFTERNOON...

I'M AN AMATEUR NATURALIST AND I COULDN'T HELP *STOPPING* TO SEE YOUR *ODD LOOKING* PLANTS!

OF COURSE! THE PLEASURE IS ALL *MINE!*

AAAHH-H-H!
MY GARDEN IS CURIOUS IS IT NOT, MY FRIEND?
MIND IF I LOOK AT YOUR GARDEN, MISTER? I'VE NEVER SEEN FLOWERS LIKE THAT!
OF COURSE YOU CAN! IF YOU WAIT, I'LL LET YOU IN!
AGAIN THE REPULSIVE GREEN FOLIAGE CLAIMS ANOTHER BODY, TWISTING LIKE POISONOUS SNAKES ABOUT ITS VICTIM UNTIL THE FLESH FALLS AWAY!
IN THE CELLAR OF HIS HOME, THE OLD MAN, NOW WARPED BY EVIL, GAZES UPON THE WRETCHED, FETID REMAINS OF HIS VICTIMS...
WHAT...
AARRGH-H-H!
MY LOVELY GARDEN WILL NOT HARM ME! --BUT, THEY HAVE FELT ITS POWER!! AND NOW THE FLAMES WILL DEVOUR THEM!
SEVERAL WEEKS LATER, THE OLD MAN STILL LOOKS UPON HIS BELOVED GARDEN...
BURN, MY PRETTY ONES! THERE WILL BE NO TRACE THAT YOU EVER EXISTED!
IT'S SO STILL TONIGHT... AS STILL AS DEATH! NOBODY WILL DISTURB THIS PLACE TONIGHT!

BUT SUDDENLY THE SILENCE IS BROKEN BY A VOICE FROM OUT OF THE GRAVE...
THIS OUR HOME !! WE WILL ... RETURN !!
AH-H-HH-H!
THAT... FACE!! IT WAS LIKE ONE OF THEM... BUT EVEN MORE HORRIBLE!! I'LL GO BACK TO THAT ANTIQUE SHOP WHERE I BOUGHT THE VASE...
WELL MY FRIEND OF THE RARE VASE, WHAT DO YOU WISH TO KNOW?
YOU MUST TELL ME... WHAT IS THE STRANGE SECRET OF THAT VASE?
THE SECRET IS THIS: THE VASE BELONGED TO AN ANCIENT ORIENTAL CULT WHICH DECREED THAT WHATEVER WAS PLACED IN THE VASE WOULD DIE QUICKLY... AND IF BURNED, WOULD RISE AGAIN IN A NEW AND MORE GHASTLY SHAPE!
THEN THAT IS WHY THE BURNED FLOWERS GAVE RISE TO THE DEADLY FOLIAGE...
BUT WHAT IF THE SAME CURSE HOLDS TRUE FOR THE BODIES I DESTROYED? WHAT IF THEY SHOULD RISE AGAIN LIKE THE FLOWERS !?? THAT FACE IN THE GARDEN...

SICKENED BY THE FRIGHTENING THOUGHT, THE OLD MAN HURRIES FROM THE SHOP, HIS CRUMBLING MIND FILLED WITH FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN!..
I MUST GO HOME! I MUST FACE... WHATEVER AWAITS ME!...
PERHAPS THE ANTIQUE DEALER WAS WRONG! I SEE NOTHING BUT MY GARDEN! HE MUST BE A FOOL...
BUT THE WORDS SUDDENLY FREEZE ON HIS LIPS AS A WEIRD PROCESSION COMES OUT OF THE NIGHT... SPIRITS OF THE UNHOLY DEAD!...
WE HAVE COME TO CLAIM OUR HOME HERE IN THE GARDEN!! ONLY THE DEAD CAN THRIVE IN THE GARDEN OF DOOM!!!
NO!! NO-O-O!
WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH ME?
FOLLOW US INTO THE GARDEN!!! YOU MUST!!!
YOU WON'T DESTROY ME THIS WAY! MY GARDEN CANNOT HARM ME!
BUT IT IS NO LONGER YOUR GARDEN!! IT IS OUR HOME!!
AND SO THE GARDEN OF DOOM CLAIMS IT'S LAST VICTIM... AND THE CREATURES FROM THE BEYOND MOVE INTO THEIR FINAL RESTING PLACE!.
YAGHH-H-H! AAAGH-H!
OUR HOME!!
THE END?

The WALKING DEAD

GET BEHIND ME, QUICK! ONLY THIS TALISMAN CAN PROTECT US FROM ***SHE, WHO NEVER DIES!***

*IT IS A SHEER ACCIDENT, **STEVE MUNSON!** IT JUST HAPPENS THAT YOUR MOTOR BREAKS DOWN!*

YOU AND YOUR IDEAS! STEVE MUNSON, THE BIG BRAIN! "BUY A BOAT", HE SAYS! ***NOW,*** LOOK!

SHUT UP! THE IDEA WAS GOOD! I GOT A WIFE TO THINK OF!

REMEMBER? WE'RE HOT! THE ***COPS*** WANT US! I DON'T LIKE THIS ANY MORE THAN YOU DO!

NOR... DO I! THIS ISLAND... IT IS ***TABU!*** LONG AGO MY PEOPLE MAROONED A WOMAN CALLED LARUKI HERE!

THE ***WITCH WOMAN!*** I VE HEARD THE STORIES!

NOT A WITCH! A VAMPIRE ***THE UNDEAD!*** MR. MUNSON, STORIES SAY ***LARUKI STILL LIVES!***

IT HAS BEEN A LONG, HARD CHASE! FOR MONTHS THE POLICE HAVE PURSUED YOU! BUT YOU'RE TOUGH! SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT FAIRY TALES!
SKIP IT! HOW LONG TO FIX THAT MOTOR?
I DON'T KNOW! BUT LET'S GO BACK TO THE BOAT! IT'S SAFER!

IN THIS STORM? COME ON! WE'LL FIND A DRY SPOT AND WORRY ABOUT THE MOTOR AFTERWARD!

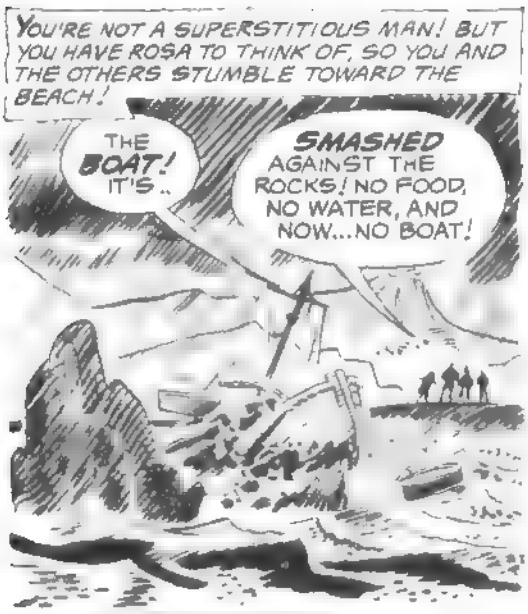
YOU FIND A CAVE...
I'M SORRY ABOUT THIS, BABY! ONE OF THESE DAYS THE COPS WILL BE OFF OUR NECKS AND THEN I'LL MAKE IT ALL UP TO YOU!

AFTER A WHILE YOU SLEEP! BUT... NOT FOR LONG!
LARUKI! I SEE THE ACCURSED ONE!
ARGGHH...

SAVE YOUR BULLETS! THEY CANNOT HARM HER! ONLY HOGA CAN DRIVE HER OFF! IT'S A CHARM AGAINST EVIL!

IT MUST WORK! SHE'S GONE!
DANNY!

DANNY'S DEAD! HIS THROAT! IT'S A MESS!
MR. MUNSON, LET'S GO BACK TO THE BOAT! LARUKI CANNOT CROSS WATER! THAT IS WHY MY PEOPLE BROUGHT HER HERE!



THERE IS NO ESCAPE! BUT AFTERWARD IT IS NOT OF FOOD AND WATER THAT MATTERS! A SMART MAN PLACES FIRST THINGS FIRST!

FOR A STAKE, YOU PICK UP A BIT OF FLOTSAM FROM THE BEACH! THEN THE SEARCH IS ON... AND AT SUNDOWN, YOU HAVE FOUND NOTHING!

ONLY, YOU DON'T FIND LARUKI! YOU FIND ONLY ROCKS AND EMPTINESS! BUT YOU HAVE THE HOGA! EVEN AFTER DARK, YOU GO ON! AND AT LAST YOU HEAR SOMETHING!

FUNNY! YOU'RE A KILLER, BUT FOR ROSA YOU HAVE ONLY TENDERNESS! WHEN SHE FALLS YOU FORGET LARUKI! YOU FORGET EVERYTHING

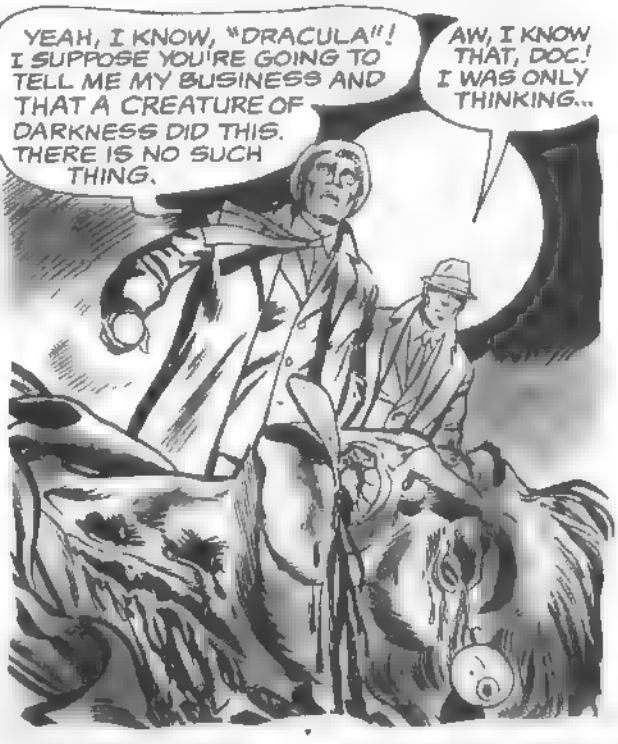
AT LAST, YOU KNOW WHERE LARUKI HAS BEEN HIDING! AND YOU KNOW THAT YOU HAVE ONLY ONE CHANCE! YOU FINGERS CLAW FOR THE HOGA! BUT... YOU NEVER REACH IT!

VAMPIRE

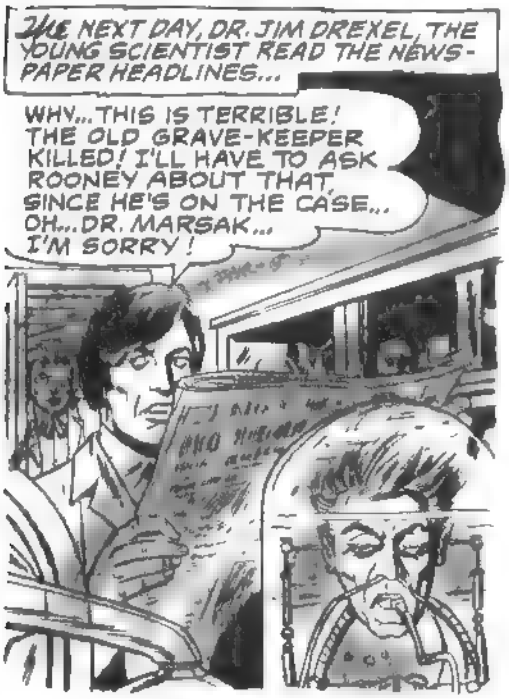
A SINISTER FIGURE STALKING THE EERIE NIGHT... A TERRIFIED SCREAM TEARS FROM A HUMAN THROAT AS GLEAMING FANGS BITE INTO SOFT WHITE FLESH AND THEN... SILENCE... GRAVEYARD SILENCE! THERE IS ONLY THE MOURNFUL WIND CRYING OVER THE BLOODLESS BODY LYING IN GHOSTLY SHADOWS WHICH HIDES THE CHILLING...

VAMPIRE

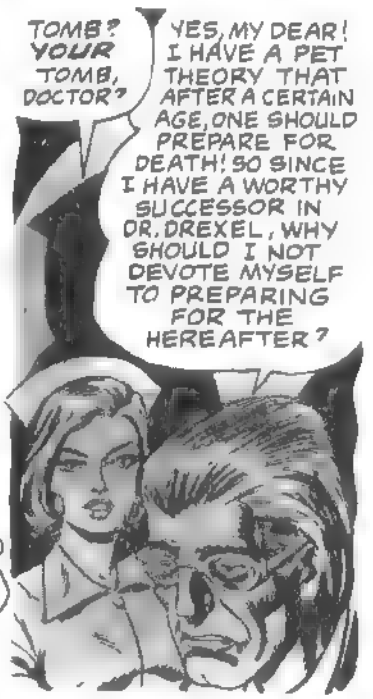
NO! NO! DON'T! I'LL NEVER REVEAL YOUR SECRET! DON'T... OHHHH!



THE ONLY TROUBLE WAS THAT DETECTIVE ROONEY DIDN'T THINK LONG OR FAR ENOUGH! FOR JUST A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY, A SINISTER FIGURE STANDS LISTENING...
FOOL OF A DOCTOR... SO HE DOESN'T BELIEVE...


THE NEXT DAY, DR. JIM DREXEL, THE YOUNG SCIENTIST READ THE NEWS-PAPER HEADLINES...
WHY...THIS IS TERRIBLE! THE OLD GRAVE-KEEPER KILLED! I'LL HAVE TO ASK ROONEY ABOUT THAT, SINCE HE'S ON THE CASE... OH...DR. MARSAK... I'M SORRY!

JIM... GET YOUR EYES OFF THAT PAPER! MEET MISS KATHY CORBIN
OH! GLAD TO MEET YOU, KATHY! I'M READING ABOUT THIS ACCIDENT LAST NIGHT, DOCTOR! IN THE CEMETERY... NEAR YOUR TOMB!


TOMB? YOUR TOMB, DOCTOR?
YES, MY DEAR! I HAVE A PET THEORY THAT AFTER A CERTAIN AGE, ONE SHOULD PREPARE FOR DEATH! SO SINCE I HAVE A WORTHY SUCCESSOR IN DR. DREXEL, WHY SHOULD I NOT DEVOTE MYSELF TO PREPARING FOR THE HEREAFTER?

WHEN DR. MARSAK LEAVES...
THAT POOR GRAVE-TENDER COULDN'T PREPARE FOR DEATH! IT MUST HAVE BEEN GHASTLY! I'M GLAD, THOUGH DR. MARSAK DIDN'T READ ABOUT VAMPIRES DOING IT (AS ROONEY SUGGESTED)! I'LL TELL HIM LATER... WHEN THERE'S MORE TIME!
DOES DR. MARSAK BELIEVE IN THOSE FOOLISH TALES?

HEAVENS NO! IN HIS YOUTH HE WAS BANISHED FROM HIS OWN VILLAGE IN EUROPE, BECAUSE HE TRIED TO HELP THE PEASANTS CONQUER THEIR SUPERSTITIONS!
I DON'T THINK I REMEMBER THAT... TELL ME SOMETHING ABOUT IT, JIM... BEFORE DR. MARSAK GETS BACK!

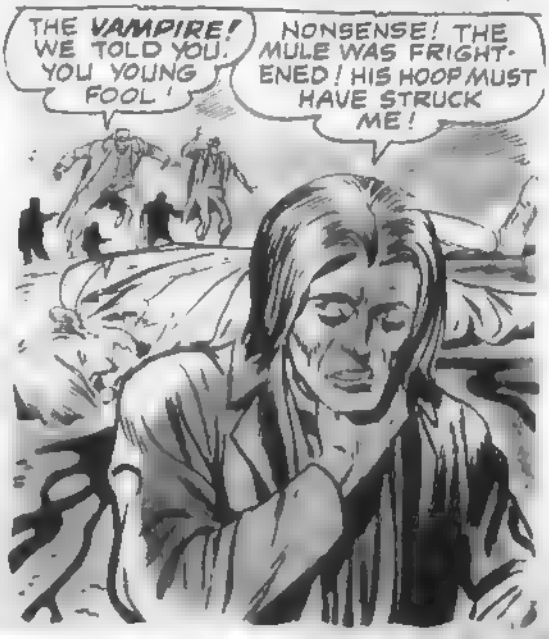
"MARSAK," JIM TELLS KATHY, "KNEW EVEN THEN THAT SCIENCE WOULD NOT ADMIT THE EXISTENCE OF GHOULS OF DEATH. BUT TO THE VILLAGERS THEY WERE REAL..."
I FEEL FOR THE SAFETY OF KLAUS, THE PEDDLER! HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN HERE BY NOW!
I HOPE HE DOES NOT TRAVEL BY NIGHT! THE VAMPIRES...

SUCH NONSENSE! THERE ARE NO SUCH THINGS! WHY DO YOU NOT FIND OUT?
HA! LISTEN TO THE YOUNG DOCTOR-TO-BE MARSAK TALK! IF HE IS SO BRAVE, LET HIM MEET KLAUS AND COME HERE WITH HIM!

"SEIZING THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SET THE VILLAGER'S FEARS AT REST, MARSAK WENT OUT ALONE TO FIND KLAUS! IT WAS A DARK, WILD NIGHT!"
FOOLS! I SHALL SHOW THEM! KLAUS MUST COME ALONG THIS TRAIL! AH, IS THAT THE SOUND OF HIS MULES' HOOVES I HEAR OVER THIS WILD WIND?

"SUDDENLY, A WILD, BLOOD-CURDLING SCREAM RANG OUT IN THE DISTANCE."
KLAUS! WHAT HAPPENED?

"AS MARSAK BENT OVER TO AID THE STRICKEN MAN SOMETHING ENVELOPED HIM..."


"...AND EVERYTHING WENT BLACK! IN THE MORNING THE VILLAGERS FOUND THEM... KLAUS WAS DEAD, STIFF AND COLD! MARSAK WAS BARELY ALIVE!"
THE VAMPIRE! WE TOLD YOU! YOU YOUNG FOOL!
NONSENSE! THE MULE WAS FRIGHTENED! HIS HOOF MUST HAVE STRUCK ME!

AND WAS DR MARSAK RIGHT?
OF COURSE! HE SWORE HE'D TRACK DOWN THE SUPERSTITION! HE BECAME AN EXPERT ON WITCHCRAFT, BUT THE DEATHS CONTINUED UNTIL FINALLY DR. MARSAK WAS HOOTED OUT OF HIS OWN VILLAGE! OH, SORRY, DOCTOR!

THAT'S ALL RIGHT, JIM! KATHY SHOULD KNOW! YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN VAMPIRES, KATHY?
NOT ME!
BUT YOU COULDN'T CONVINCE DETECTIVE ROONEY! THAT WAS A FUNNY TOUCH IN THE TRAGIC STORY OF THE GRAVE-KEEPER'S DEATH! ROONEY LIVES AT MY BOARDING-HOUSE, KATHY!

WELL, I SUPPOSE EACH TO HIS OWN BELIEF! I'VE GOT TO TAKE KATHY TO MY LAB NOW, JIM! YOU CAN HAVE HER LATER!

KATHY WAS VERY HAPPY IN HER JOB. FROM MARSAK SHE LEARNED MANY OF SCIENCE'S MYSTERIES... ONE DAY...
OH! THE TEST TUBE SLIPPED! I'VE CUT MYSELF!
THAT'S A DANGEROUS CHEMICAL!

DR. MARSAK TAKES KATHY'S FINGER BETWEEN HIS LIPS...
DOCTOR... WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I HOPE I DIDN'T FRIGHTEN YOU, CHILD! I HAD TO GET THAT BLOOD OUT! THAT CHEMICAL MIGHT HAVE KILLED YOU!
YOU DID FRIGHTEN ME... BUT THANK YOU!

THAT EVENING, DINING AT THE BOARDING-HOUSE WHERE THEY BOTH LIVE, KATHY TELLS JIM OF HER NEAR TRAGEDY...

I'M GLAD DR. MARSAK WAS THERE TO HELP! FEEL RIGHT ENOUGH FOR A MOVIE TONIGHT?

NO... I... GUESS I'M HAVING A LITTLE POST-ACCIDENT SHOCK! I'D BETTER GET TO BED EARLY JIM! MAYBE SOME OTHER NIGHT...

AND SO KATHY WENT TO BED EARLY, CONFIDENT THAT IN THE MORNING SHE'D FEEL BETTER! ENGROSSED IN HER BOOK, SHE DOESN'T SEE THE STRANGE FIGURE AT HER WINDOW...

ODD THAT I SHOULD FEEL SO WEAK!

SUDDENLY, THE WINDOW OPENS NOISELESSLY AND INTO THE ROOM COMES A CREATURE OF THE PITS! IT LEAPS, CUTTING KATHY'S SCREAM SHORT...

BUT JIM HEARD KATHY'S TERRIFIED CRY FOR HELP!

QUICK, ROONEY! KATHY... KATHY...

BUT I TELL YOU JIM, I SAW SOMETHING LIKE A GIANT BAT!

NOW... NOW... BE QUIET! YOU MUST HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP AND KNOCKED OVER THE LAMP! YOU CUT YOURSELF... THESE NICKS...

THE DOCTOR'S RIGHT, MISS KATHY! I'VE HAD NIGHTMARES MYSELF! I KNOW! BETTER GIVE HER A SEDATIVE, DOC! THEN I WANT TO TALK TO YOU!

AFTER GIVING KATHY A SEDATIVE, JIM DECIDES TO STAY BY HER...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, ROONEY?

LOOK AT THIS! THE SAME MARKS WERE ON THAT DEAD GRAVE-KEEPER! BUT I JUST CHECKED OUTSIDE AND THERE AIN'T A FOOTPRINT!

JUST A COINCIDENCE, ROONEY GLASS CUTS! SAY, DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE OFF ON THAT VAMPIRE ROUTINE AGAIN! GO ON TO BED! I'LL SIT UP WITH KATHY!

JUST THE SAME, I'LL BET IT AIN'T ALL FICTION! THERE MUST BE SOME TRUTH IN IT! OKAY, GOOD NIGHT! BUT I'M LOOKING AROUND AGAIN!

AS JIM KEEPS HIS VIGIL, HE DOZES... JUST A CATNAP! KATHY OPENS HER EYES AND SEES JIM ... BUT SUDDENLY, FROM A DISTANCE, A SOFT, INSINUATING VOICE CALLS...

KATHY.. KATHY.. YOU WILL DO AS I BID YOU... AND THEN COME TO ME MY LOVE ..

IN A TRANCE-LIKE STATE, KATHY DOES AS SHE IS BIDDEN! HER SOFT-WHITE ARMS ENFOLD JIM AND THE NEXT INSTANT, SHARP WHITE TEETH KNIFE HIS NECK...

KATHY...! I .. I .

AS HIS BODY WEAKENS STRANGELY, JIM SUMMONS ALL HIS RESERVE STRENGTH! HE PUSHES KATHY AWAY... THEN THE ROOM REVOLVES DIZZILY...

COME... COME...

HELP! HELP!

WHAT'S GOING ON? JIM... MISS KATHY!

I HEARD THE COMMOTION! WHAT HAPPENED? HEY, WE'VE GOT TO GET THAT GIRL! IT'S SNOWING OUT! SHE MUST BE DELIRIOUS!

YES... YES... BUT ROONEY... LET'S FOLLOW HER! COME ON!

OBLIVIOUS OF THE SNOW AND BITING COLD, AS THOUGH ATTRACTED BY A MAGNETIC FORCE, KATHY GLIDES THROUGH THE NIGHT...

SHE'S GOING INTO THE CEMETERY! LOOK!

PUT THAT GUN AWAY, ROONEY! I'M AFRAID IT WON'T DO ANY GOOD... AGAINST WHAT WE'RE FIGHTING! THANK GOODNESS IT'S ALMOST DAWN! SEE THE SKY'S GETTING LIGHTER!

QUICKLY, JIM WRESTS A STAKE FROM A NEARBY DRIFT FENCE AND ORDERS ROONEY TO DO THE SAME... AS THE DOOR OPENS, AND KATHY VANISHES!!

HURRY, HURRY.. ROONEY! GET A STAKE!

I THINK YOU'RE CRAZY, TOO, DOC... SO I'LL DO IT! BUT, KATHY... LOOK SHE'S GOING INSIDE!

AS JIM AND DETECTIVE ROONEY ENTER THE TOMB, A GHASTLY SIGHT SENDS CHILLS OF HORROR UP AND DOWN THEIR SPINES!

DOC... **THEY'RE DEAD!** GLORY BE... I... I...

NO... NOT DEAD YET, ROONEY! NOT YET... BUT THEY'RE GOING TO BE!

HIS HEART HEAVY, BUT REALIZING WHAT MUST BE DONE, JIM DRIVES THE WOODEN SPIKE INTO MARSAR'S HEART! SUDDENLY, A CHILLING SCREAM ECHOES AND RE-ECHOES THROUGH THE TOMB...

GOOD-BYE, MARSAK, MY FRIEND! NOW MAY YOUR TORMENTED SOUL REST IN PEACE FOREVER!

DOC... DOC! THAT'S MURDER! WHAT ARE YOU DOING? WHY? WHY?

BUT THE SCREAM WHICH STRUCK SUCH TERROR INTO ROONEY'S HEART, WAS NOT TORN FROM THE DEVIL-POSSESSED DR. MARSAR, BUT FROM KATHY'S THROAT!

JIM... JIM... WHERE AM I?

KATHY... KATHY, DARLING! IT'S A MIRACLE YOU'RE FLESH AND BLOOD STILL... MY DARLING!

WILL SOMEBODY TELL THE LAW WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT?

IT WAS WHILE I WAS DOZING IN KATHY'S ROOM THAT I THOUGHT OF MARSAR'S EXPERIENCE IN THE VILLAGE OF HIS YOUTH... I WAS THINKING OF WHAT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED IF A VAMPIRE AND NOT A MULE HAD ATTACKED HIM! AND THEN SUDDENLY IT WAS CLEAR... **HIS FIRST AID TO KATHY'S FINGER!** HE COULDN'T HELP HIMSELF! TONIGHT HE ATTACKED KATHY AGAIN!

FORTUNATELY, WE STOPPED HIM IN TIME!

DON'T YOU SEE, ROONEY? THE GRAVEYARD KEEPER MUST HAVE DISCOVERED HIS SECRET! MARSAK SLEPT HERE AFTER EACH ATTACK! THEN HE WOULD COME TO THE LABORATORY!

A REAL GENUINE, VAMPIRE! IT GIVES ME THE CREEPS!

HOLD ME... OH, JIM!

BUT DO YOU THINK THEY'D BELIEVE ME AT HEADQUARTERS? THE CHIEF SAID MARSAR JUST WENT NUTS... AND WHO WAS I TRYING TO KID? BUT **YOU** BELIEVE ME.. DON'T YOU?

The End

SATAN'S MAN

HARRY LENZ, WE SHALL SOON MEET---AND BE CONSTANT COMPANIONS--TO YOUR EVERLASTING SORROW AND TORMENT!
SATAN, PRINCE OF DARKNESS, WHOSE DISGUISES ARE LEGION, PREPARES FOR A JOURNEY TO MORTAL REALMS TO ENSNARE ANOTHER WEAK SOUL INTO ETERNAL BONDAGE IN THE NETHER WORLD!

HARRY LENZ

I WANT A PAIR OF SPECTACLES MADE FROM THIS ACCORDING TO THIS PRESCRIPTION!
FEELS KINDA HOT, WHAT IS IT?

THAT IS NO CONCERN OF YOURS! I WILL CALL FOR THE SPECTACLES TOMORROW NIGHT!
THAT'S TOO SOON, I CAN'T HAVE THEM READY BY THEN!
I PAY WELL FOR HASTE....THERE WILL BE MORE IF YOU HAVE THEM READY FOR ME!
YOU'LL HAVE THEM TOMORROW NIGHT--OUCH! THESE ARE HOT!

SPURRED ON BY THE THOUGHT OF MORE GOLD, THE GREEDY OPTOMETRIST WORKS THROUGH THE NIGHT...
FINISHED AT LAST!...NOW TO TRY THEM ON!
HE DOES--DISCOVERING THAT THEY GIVE HIM X-RAY VISION!
WHY-WHY I CAN SEE THROUGH THE VERY WALLS!
EVEN INTO HUMAN MINDS TO READ THEIR VERY THOUGHTS!
THAT PAIR ON THE SHELF IS JUST THE KIND I WANT!
THAT PAIR WILL COST YOU TEN DOLLARS!

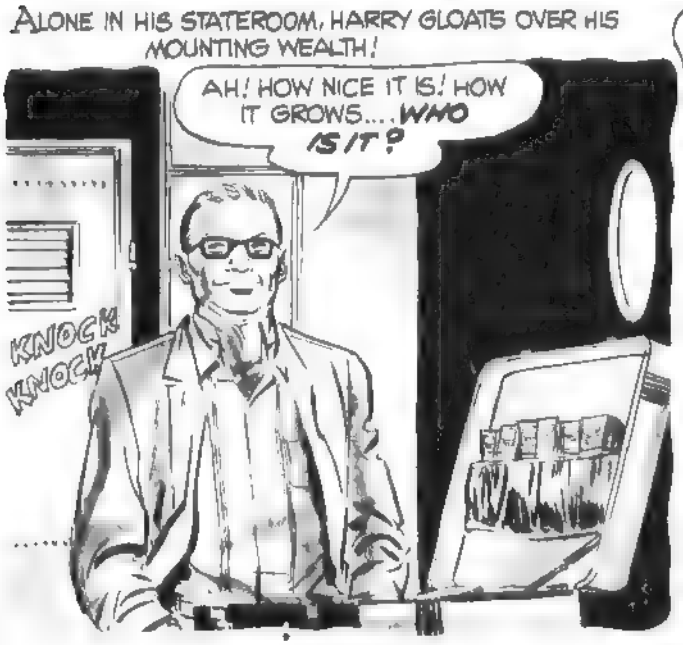
FEARING THAT THE CUSTOMER HAS DISCOVERED THE SECRET OF HIS SUDDEN NEW POWER HARRY FLIES INTO A RAGE!
W-WHY HOW-HOW DID Y-YOU KNOW? YOU READ MY MIND!
PAY ME AND GET OUT OF HERE!
EEEE! I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE FAST!
GET OUT! GET OUT!

DETERMINED TO KEEP THE MIRACULOUS SPECTACLES, HARRY WORKED MADLY AND FASHIONED A DUPLICATE PAIR!
AH! YOU'VE FINISHED THEM! A MAN WILL DO ANYTHING FOR GOLD!
THANKS! I HOPE YOU WILL FIND THEM SATISFACTORY!
BUT NOT AS SATISFACTORY AS I'LL FIND THE REAL PAIR!
LATE FOR DINNER!
TOUGH DAY!
HOPE I GET A RAISE!
NEED A NEW CAR!
EVERY MIND IS AN OPEN BOOK TO ME NOW!

SATAN, IN ANOTHER GUISE, SETS HIS TRAP!
THE OLD MISER WHO KEEPS HIS MONEY IN HIS ROOM AT 20 LIST STREET...
HE LOOKS FAMILIAR -- MONEY!.... IF I GET THERE FIRST!....

THE TRAP IS SPRUNG!---HARRY IS NOW A MURDERER!
LAY AND ROT, OLD MISER, WHILE YOUR MONEY BEGINS A NEW LIFE FOR ME!
HEH-HEH!-- AND I, SATAN WILL SHARE EVERY MOMENT OF IT WITH YOU!

HARRY ESCAPES ABOARD AN OCEAN LINER BOUND FOR FOREIGN SHORES--HE SPENDS DAY AFTER DAY IN THE CARD ROOM!
LUCK SEEMS TO BE WITH ME TONIGHT!
UNTIL I, SATAN DECIDE THAT IT SHOULD CHANGE FOR THE WORSE!


ALONE IN HIS STATEROOM, HARRY GLOATS OVER HIS MOUNTING WEALTH!
AH! HOW NICE IT IS! HOW IT GROWS....WHO IS IT?
KNOCK KNOCK

WE'RE ABOUT TO DOCK, SIR! I'LL TAKE THAT BAG AND YOUR OTHER LUGGAGE---
NO YOU WON'T! KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF! I'LL CARRY IT MYSELF!

ONCE IN EUROPE, HARRY LENZ NOW KNOWN AS HERMAN GREID PYRAMIDS HIS FORTUNE WITH EASE! AT MONTE CARLO....

MONSIEUR GREID, YOU HAVE UNCANNY LUCK---YOU HAVE BROKEN ZE BANK!

OH, IT'S EASY WHEN YOU KNOW HOW!

RACE TRACK

I KNOW HOW TO PICK THEM!

YOU WIN AGAIN!

AT THE LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE...

SELL 100 000 SHARES AT £56/6!

YOUR PROFIT IS AMAZING!

AND A LITTLE BLACKMAIL!

HERE'S THE MONEY YOU ASK FOR SILENCE ABOUT MY PAST!

IT WILL REMAIN A SECRET!

NO THOUGHT WAS SAFE FROM HERMAN GREID'S BESPECTACLED EYES! HE PROFITEERED FROM WHOLE-SALE BLACKMAIL AND LEFT A TRAIL OF SUICIDES AND HATE BEHIND HIM!

YEARS OF ILL-GOTTEN GAINS HAVE GIVEN HERMAN A LUXURIOUS CASTLE!

MY VAULTS OVERFLOW WITH WEALTH!

BUT HE IS UTTERLY DEPENDENT ON THE GLASSES, FOR WITHOUT THEM HE ***GOES BLIND!***

MY GLASSES! I'M GOING BLIND! OH, HERE THEY ARE!

WHILE DINING IN A CAFE HERMAN MEETS SOME EXILED ROYALTY.

MR. GREID, I AM PRINCE NATAS -- MAY I PRESENT KING NOMED AND HIS DAUGHTER, PRINCESS SEDAH?

DELIGHTED! A GREAT HONOR!

EVEN ROYALTY LOOKS UP TO ME!

HE WOULD BE A HANDSOME HUSBAND FOR ME!

A STRONG MAN WHO CAN HELP US REGAIN OUR KINGDOM!

THEY THINK WELL OF ME, ESPECIALLY THE PRINCESS! SHE SHALL BE MY WIFE!

PRINCE NATAS VISITS HERMAN AT HIS CASTLE WITH A PLAN TO INCREASE HIS WEALTH AND PRESTIGE.

ONLY YOU, HERMAN GREID, CAN FINANCE A REVOLUTION!

I AM INTERESTED, BUT WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

MONEY, POWER, ROYAL GRANTS AND CONCESSIONS IN PERPETUITY..!

AND?...

...AND THE HAND OF PRINCESS SEDAH IN MARRIAGE.

THEN IT'S A DEAL.

HERMAN'S VAULTS WERE EMPTIED TO EQUIP THE ARMIES OF THE REVOLUTION!

SOON WE WILL MARCH AGAINST THE USURPERS!

SOON THE PRINCESS SEDAH WILL BE MINE!

WAR! CASUALTIES MOUNT AS NATA'S ARMIES GAIN VICTORY AFTER VICTORY!

BUT THE TIDE OF BATTLE SUDDENLY TURNS!

THE KING AND PRINCESS HAVE BEEN CAPTURED AND EXECUTED! OUR ARMIES ARE RETREATING!

ZOUNDS! WE ARE DEFEATED! WE MUST FLEE!

MY FORTUNE: MY PRINCESS! GONE!

ONCE WE CROSS THE BORDER WE ARE SAFE!

FASTER! FASTER!

NEUTR

WELCOME TO NEUTRALANIA, GENTLEMEN!
QUICKLY, INSIDE!
I'M RIGHT BEHIND YOU!

WELL, WE MADE IT, HERMAN GREID! ... WAITER, SOME CIGARS!
YES, BUT MY FORTUNE...!

NOTHING LIKE A GOOD CIGAR TO QUIET THE NERVES!
I FIND VAULTS FILLED WITH GOLD MORE SOOTHING!

INHALE DEEPLY, HERMAN GREID!
WHAT THE...?
I MUST BE SEEING THINGS!

COUGH-COUGH! PHEW! I CAN'T ..COUGH .. SEE! MUST— COUGH—WIPE MY GLASSES!
YES, IT'S RATHER CLOSE IN HERE!

WHERE IS MY HANDKERCHIEF?

THESE ARE NOT MY GLASSES!
SAY, NATAS, YOU MUST HAVE TAKEN MY GLASSES BY MISTAKE!
NO MISTAKE.... I TOOK THEM ON PURPOSE!

A TERRIFYING METAMORPHOSIS TAKES PLACE BEFORE HERMAN GREID'S DARKENING VISION!

WHAT--WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I AM ONLY RE-CLAIMING WHAT IS MINE--HARRY LENZ!

HOW--HOW DO YOU KNOW MY REAL NAME?--WHY, IT'S YOU!

YES--REMEMBER ME YEARS AGO WHEN I CAME TO YOUR SHOP TO HAVE A PAIR OF SPECTACLES MADE?

SATAN REVEALS HIMSELF IN HIS TRUE FORM!

YOU'RE--YOU'RE SATAN! OH! I'M GOING BLIND--BLIND!

YES! I'M HERE TO COLLECT PAYMENT FOR THEIR USE!

THE PRICE IS YOUR VISION!--- YOU SHALL BE BLIND FOR ALL ETERNITY! GOOD BYE, WE SHALL MEET IN THE NETHER WORLD!

HELP! HELP! I CAN'T SEE! SAVE ME!

--IN THE NETHER WORLD, HARRY LENZ!!

HELP! HELP!... OHOOOO!

I'M BLIND---BLIND! I MUST FIND MY WAY OUT OF HERE!

WITH HIS EYESIGHT GONE, HARRY LENZ FACES A PITCH BLACK ETERNITY OF BLINDNESS!

.....

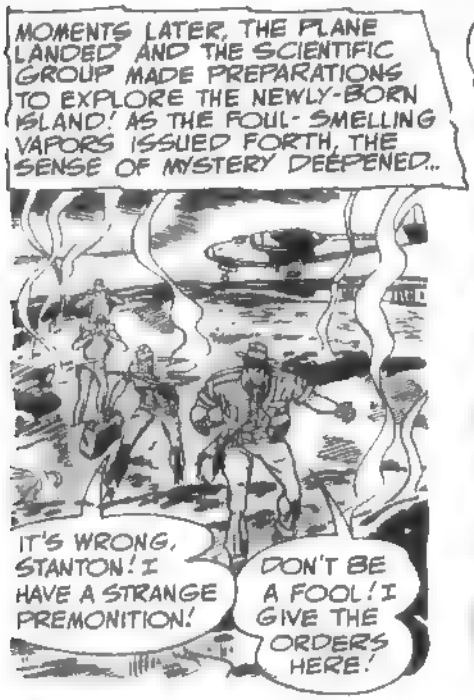
THE DEVIL ALWAYS GETS HIS DUE!!

the end

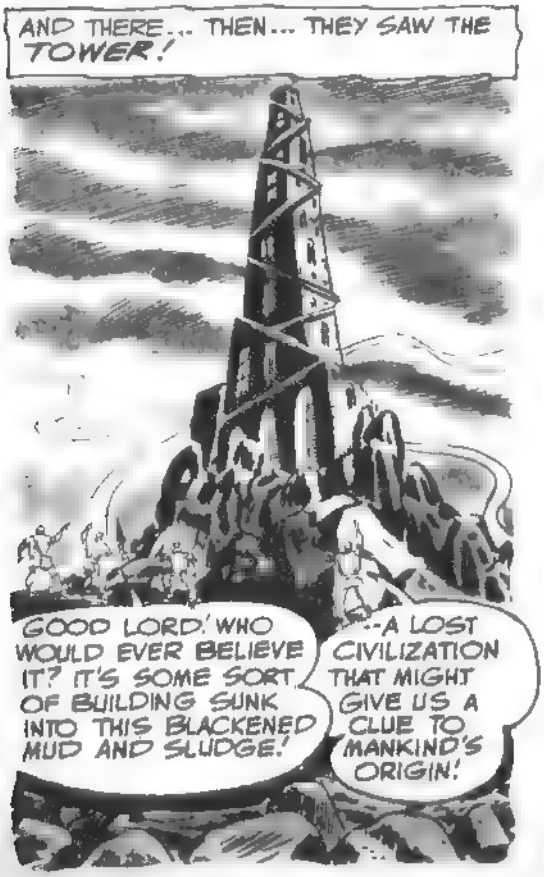
A RUMBLING THUNDER SHOOK THE COOL, GREEN-BLUE WATER AND REGURGITATED THE MURKY FROTH INTO STINGING SPRAY. AND OUT OF ITS BUBBLING DEPTHS ROSE THE HORRIBLE VOLCANIC INFERNO THAT HAD COME TO CLAIM NEW VICTIMS LURING THEM TO THE...

ISLE OF DEMONS

THE SCIENTISTS WERE ON THE SPOT! AN ISLAND BURSTING FROM HIDDEN, MYSTERIOUS DEPTHS COULDN'T ESCAPE DETECTION FOR LONG...
THERE IT IS, GENTLEMEN! INCREDIBLE! A SCENE OUT OF DANTE'S INFERNO! AS IF WE ARE POISED ON THE GATES OF HELL!
I DON'T LIKE THIS, STANTON! THE AUTHORITIES ONLY ALLOWED US TO VIEW THE ISLAND -- NOT LAND ON IT!
NONSENSE, WILLIAMS! DON'T BE SO JUMPY, MAN! WE'LL JUST STAY A FEW MINUTES!


MOMENTS LATER, THE PLANE LANDED AND THE SCIENTIFIC GROUP MADE PREPARATIONS TO EXPLORE THE NEWLY-BORN ISLAND! AS THE FOUL-SMELLING VAPORS ISSUED FORTH, THE SENSE OF MYSTERY DEEPENED..
IT'S WRONG, STANTON! I HAVE A STRANGE PREMONITION!
DON'T BE A FOOL! I GIVE THE ORDERS HERE!

YOU'RE COMING WITH US! LOOK -- THIS IS THE FIND OF THE DECADE! LOOK, MAN -- LOOK!


AND THERE... THEN... THEY SAW THE TOWER!
GOOD LORD! WHO WOULD EVER BELIEVE IT? IT'S SOME SORT OF BUILDING SUNK INTO THIS BLACKENED MUD AND SLUDGE!
--A LOST CIVILIZATION THAT MIGHT GIVE US A CLUE TO MANKIND'S ORIGIN!

BUT AS THEY TALKED IN AWE... AN OMINOUS SOUND MADE THEM WHIRL AROUND IN HORROR...
AIIE! THE PLANE... IT'S SINKING INTO THE MUD! HELP!
TOO LATE! STAY BACK OR WE'LL BE SUCKED INTO THAT QUAGMIRE, TOO!

WE SHOULDN'T HAVE LANDED! I TOLD YOU! OHHH... WE'LL ALL DIE HERE!
NO ONE'S GOING TO DIE, WILLIAMS! SNAP OUT OF IT! THE AUTHORITIES KNOW WE'RE HERE! THEY'LL SEND A RESCUE PLANE WITHIN THE HOUR!

WELL... WHAT SHALL WE DO? WE'RE STRANDED HERE!
USE YOUR HEAD! THIS WILL GIVE US A CHANCE TO EXPLORE FURTHER! FOLLOW ME!

BUT AS THE MEN APPROACHED, A DARK SHADOW OF HORRIBLE MEANING SLUNK DEEPER INTO THE BLACKNESS OF THE DRIPPING WALLS...
WILLIAMS MIGHT BE RIGHT, STANTON! THERE'S AN AIR OF BROODING THAT HANGS OVER THIS PLACE! HEAVEN KNOWS HOW LONG THIS ISLAND HAS BEEN UNDER WATER!
LOOK... THERE'S ANOTHER CHAMBER INSIDE!

GREAT SCOTT! GOLD!
GOLD! HA-HA... WE'RE RICH! THE IDOLS... THE DECORATIONS, THEY'RE ALL GOLD! THERE'S MILLIONS HERE... MILLIONS!
BUT WHY, STANTON? WHY IS THIS TOWER HERE? WHAT IS IT? WHO WERE THE PEOPLE WHO BUILT IT?
THAT'S NOT IN OUR PROVINCE TO FIND OUT! WE'RE ONLY RESPONSIBLE FOR DISCOVERING IT.. AND THE TREASURE! LET THE ARCHEOLOGISTS DIG OUT THE SECRETS!

ALL I'M INTERESTED IN IS HOW MUCH GOLD IS HERE...
AND IF THERE'S MORE OF IT! THIS IDOL FOR INSTANCE ...IT'S SOLID GOLD!

NO SOONER HAD STANTON CRUSHED THE IDOL TO PIECES, A STRANGE, THROBBING SOUND, FOLLOWED BY AN EERIE WAILING ISSUED FORTH FROM THE DEPTHS OF THE TOWER...
OOOOEEEOOEEH! THEY HAVE BLASPHEMED AGAINST US! RISE, BROTHERS, RISE! OOOOEEEOOEEH!

OOOOEEEOOEEH! THEY HAVE DESTROYED OUR OFFERINGS TO THE TOWER! THEY HAVE CURSED OUR FATES! LET THEM JOIN US NOW-- IN ETERNAL MISERY!

YA-A-A!! LET ME OUT OF HERE!

W-WHAT ARE THEY? I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS IN MY LIFE!

DEVILS FROM THE DEEP-- THAT'S WHAT THEY ARE! DON'T YOU KNOW WHERE WE ARE? THE INSCRIPTIONS.. THE DECORATIONS... WE'RE IN THE TOWER OF BABEL!

NOW THE MEN HAD BUT ONE THOUGHT... TO FLEE FROM THE NIGHTMARISH SCOURGE THAT PURSUED THEM... FLEE FOR THEIR VERY LIVES!

OOOOEEEOOEEH! HASTEN, BROTHERS! BEHOLD! ONE STUMBLES! GOOD-- HE SHALL JOIN US!

A!!E!!E!!

YAAAGGHH!
COME, MORTAL! YOU ARE NOW ONE OF US! WELCOME, WELCOME INTO OUR FOLD!

AAAARRRGGH! THE GROUND'S OPENING UP UNDER ME! AAIIEEEE!

ONLY STANTON WAS LEFT! GASPING, PANTING, HE EMERGED FROM THE TOWER -- TOO FRIGHTENED TO THINK -- TOO TERRIFIED TO REMAIN...
GASP, GASP... I'M FREE! MADE IT! HA, HA... I'M FREE! THEY'LL NEVER FOLLOW ME OUT HERE! WILLIAMS, BARLOW, EVANS -- ALL GONE! ONLY I'M LEFT...

THE GROUND -- IT'S CHANGING -- UNDULATING! NO -- NO! PLEASE --! IT CAN'T BE! FIGURES ARE COMING OUT OF THE MUD! THEY'RE.
ALIVE! EVERY-THING'S ALIVE!

COME, MORTAL! YOU ARE NOW ALONE! WHAT CAN YOUR PUNY EXISTENCE OFFER YOU? JOIN US FOR ALL ETERNITY! JOIN US IN DEATH!
N-NO! DON'T TOUCH ME! STAY AWAY FROM ME!

I'LL -- I'LL KILL YOU ALL! DON'T TAKE ANOTHER STEP! I'M WARNING YOU!

AAARRGH!
HA.. HA! SO YOU CAN BE HURT! GOOD! I'VE GOT OVER A DOZEN ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION! I'LL KILL YOU ALL! STAY BACK!

FOR ALMOST AN HOUR STANTON HELD THE CREATURES OF ETERNAL DEATH AT BAY... BUT NOW ANOTHER HORROR-- MORE DANGEROUS AND MENACING HAD ARISEN..
THE ISLAND-- IT'S SINKING BACK INTO THE WATER!

YOU UNDERSTAND NOW, MORTAL? YOU CANNOT CONQUER THE UNKNOWN! YOUR PUNY WEAPONS HAVE ONLY PROLONGED THE INEVITABLE! WELCOME NOW! WELCOME!
YAAAAH!

THE WATERS ROLLED OVER HIM AND DRAGGED HIM DOWN! HE SCREAMED UNTIL THE MUD AND THE LAVA, AND THE SEA FILLED HIS LUNGS-- AND DOWN HE WENT.. TO JOIN THE HORDES OF DEATH FOREVER...
...FOR HE HAD STUMBLED ONTO THE ISLE OF THE DOOMED-- GATEWAY TO HELL!!
The End

NIGHTMARE

FEW YOUNG ACTORS ARE FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO BE TUTORED BY A THEATRICAL GENIUS! SIMON FENTON WAS ONE OF THESE ...BUT WHEN HE TURNED ON HIS TUTOR, HIS LESSONS BECAME A...

DO YOUR LAST SPEECH AGAIN, FENTON! IF YOU WANT TO SUCCEED ME AS THE LEADING ACTOR, YOU'VE GOT TO WORK HARD!

WHEREVER HE WALKS, JASON WORTHINGTON FINDS HIS PATH LINED WITH AUTOGRAPH HUNTERS..

PLEASE, MR. WORTHINGTON!

WHY CERTAINLY!

JASON! HOW ABOUT A BITE OF SOMETHING?

THANKS, JOHNNY, BUT SOME OTHER TIME! THERE'S A YOUNG SHAKESPEAREAN COMPANY PERFORMING LATER! I THINK I'LL DROP BY!

LATER
MR. WORTHINGTON! THIS IS AN HONOR!
THANK YOU, BUT I'M JUST ANOTHER SPECTATOR HERE!
AS THE PLAY BEGINS WORTHINGTON'S CASUAL INTEREST IS TRANSFORMED INTO GENUINE ATTENTIVENESS!
THAT BOY PLAYING HAMLET! HE HAS THE MAKINGS OF A REALLY FINE ACTOR! I'LL TALK TO HIM LATER!
CONGRATULATIONS, LAD! YOU'LL BE A GREAT ACTOR SOME DAY! MY NAME IS JASON WORTHINGTON! WHAT'S YOURS?
JASON WORTHINGTON! I... I MEAN... I'M SIMON FENTON!
ACTORS WITH YOUR ABILITY DON'T COME ALONG TOO OFTEN, FENTON! HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO UNDERSTUDY ME IN HAMLET?
WOULD I! MR WORTHINGTON, THIS IS THE GREATEST HONOR EVER BESTOWED UPON ME!
SIMON FENTON PROFITS GREATLY BY THE MASTER'S TUTORING!
REMEMBER.. NOTICE HOW I HANDLE THE SWORD AS THOUGH I INTENDED TO MURDER WITH IT.. NOT ACT WITH IT!
I SEE, SIR!
BUT ABOUT THE DEATH ITSELF... HOW SHOULD I FALL TO THE GROUND?
THERE'S TIME FOR THAT, FENTON! YOU MUST LEARN HOW TO BE MORTALLY WOUNDED BEFORE LEARNING HOW TO FALL! IT'S TIME FOR ME TO BE ONSTAGE!

ALONE IN WORTHINGTONS DRESSING ROOM SIMON FENTON'S TRUE EMOTIONS ARE SUDDENLY BARED!
HE TREATS ME LIKE A CHILD! WHEN I, SIMON FENTON AM A GREATER ACTOR THAN HE IS RIGHT NOW!
LOOK AT HIM! IN THE SPOTLIGHT WHILE I LANGUISH BACK HERE IN DARKNESS!
GREAT THEY SAY! BUT I AM GREATER!
MOMENTS LATER!
HOW WAS IT, FENTON?
HOW I .. ER . IT WAS SUPERB, MR WORTHINGTON, SUPERB!
REALLY? I HOPE YOU PROFITED BY IT ALSO, FENTON!
ER . I'M SURE I DID!
LATER THAT EVENING SIMON FENTON RETURNS TO HIS ROOM HIS PERSPECTIVE BLURRED BY HATRED!
DID I PROFIT FROM HIS PERFORMANCE, HE ASKED! LET HIM PROFIT FROM MINE! BUT WHAT CHANCE HAVE I TO DISPLAY MY GREATNESS! I'M HIS UNDERSTUDY AND HE NEVER MISSES A PERFORMANCE!
IBSEN
THE TIME HAS COME FOR SIMON FENTON TO TAKE MATTERS IN HIS OWN HANDS! HA, HA, HA!

AND LATE THE NEXT NIGHT, THE LUST RIDDEN NEOPHYTE WAITS FOR JASON WORTHINGTON TO COME TO HIS DRESSING ROOM...
YOUR LAST APPEARANCE, WORTHINGTON! HEH HEH! TOMORROW MY NAME SHALL ADORN THIS DOOR!
JASON WORTHINGTON
OH...ER...FENTON! HELLO! WHAT ARE... THAT KNIFE...!
YES, WORTHINGTON! A LOVELY KNIFE!
AND YOU NEEDN'T TEACH ME HOW TO USE IT!
ARRGGH
THE GREAT ACTOR IS DEAD! AND THE MADDENED FENTON, SENSING HIS HOUR OF TRIUMPH IS NEAR, HURRIEDLY TRANSPORTS THE BODY OF JASON WORTHINGTON TO THE WOODS
HA HA! NOW FOR A QUICK BURIAL AND BACK TO THE THEATER TO PORTRAY MY VERSION OF HAMLET!
SLEEP WELL, WORTHINGTON! GOODNIGHT, SWEET PRINCE! HA HA HA!
THE THEATRICAL WORLD SHALL LONG REMEMBER THIS FATEFUL NIGHT! THE NIGHT JASON WORTHINGTON SUDDENLY DISAPPEARED AND HIS UNDERSTUDY ROCKETED INTO FAME AND FORTUNE!

FENTON RETURNS TO THE THEATER BUT AS HE STANDS IN THE WINGS AWAITING HIS ENTRANCE...
NO! WORTHINGTON! BUT IT... CANNOT BE! I'VE KILLED HIM!
WILD-EYED AND HYSTERICAL WITH FEAR, FENTON RACES FROM THE THEATER!
NO! HE'S DEAD! AM I LOSING MY MIND? THE GRAVE! I MUST GO TO THE GRAVE!
HE'S HERE! I MUST HAVE IMAGINED IT! BACK TO THE THEATER! THIS IS MY CHANCE TO PERFORM!
THE CRAZED ACTOR RETURNS TO THE THEATRE, AND VIEWS A SPECTACLE THAT MAKES HIS BLOOD CONGEAL!
JASON!
I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU, FENTON!
LET ME ALONE, WORTHINGTON! I... I... KILLED YOU!
BUT THE MURDERER'S HEAD-LONG FLIGHT IS ABRUPTLY ENDED BY A COMMAND FROM THE APPARITION AND SIMON FENTON FREEZES IN HIS TRACKS...
COME, FENTON! JOIN ME!
GO TO THE STAGE, FENTON! YOUR DEATH SCENE STILL NEEDS POLISHING!

JASON'S TONE IS THAT OF A PROFESSOR ADDRESSING A DELINQUENT PUPIL... AND THE FEAR STRICKEN SIMON FENTON SERVILELY OBEYS...

AND ON INTO THE NIGHT THE GROTESQUE SPIRIT OF JASON WORTHINGTON PATIENTLY TEDIOUSLY DIRECTS THE FORESAKEN SIMON FENTON.

REST... REST... I CANNOT GO...ON!
YOU'RE DOING BETTER, FENTON! A FEW MORE READINGS AND YOU MAY HAVE IT!

FEAR NOT, QUEEN MOTHER...IT...WAS... LAERTES AND... HE SHALL DIE AT... MY HANDS!

AND AS THE GREY DAWN APPROACHES, THE APPARITION IS SATISFIED THAT HIS PROTEGE HAS LEARNED HIS LESSONS WELL!
SPLENDID, FENTON! YOU HAVEN'T DISAPPOINTED ME! NOW FOR THE FINAL SPEECH ITSELF! THEN WE'LL CALL IT A NIGHT!

ALAS! I HAVE BEEN POISONED AND NOW I, TOO, GO TO JOIN MY DECEASED FATHER! I, TOO... I... AGGRRAA!

BUT THE STRANGE POWERS OF RETRIBUTION CAN NEVER BE DENIED AND PERHAPS THEY ACT WITH GREATER DRAMA AND IRONY IN A BACKGROUND SUCH AS THIS... FOR AS SIMON ENACTS THE DEATH SCENE OF HAMLET, HE CRUMBLES TO THE STAGE IN A DEATH FAR MORE JUST AND REALISTIC! HIS OWN!
WELL DONE! WELL DONE, FENTON! CONVINCING AND PROPER!

THE NEXT DAY FENTON'S DEAD BODY WAS FOUND BUT UNNOTICED IN THE CONFUSION ARE SEVERAL ARTICLES OF CLOTHING LEFT ON A SEAT...
SAY...! THIS IS FENTON! MR. WORTHINGTON'S UNDERSTUDY!
I WONDER HOW THIS HAPPENED?
END

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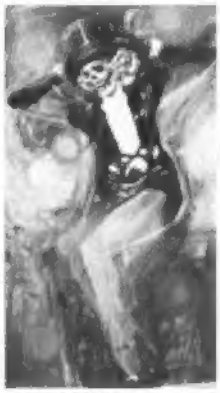

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